FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Soviet Union

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1 March 1979

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

GENERAL

'Environmental Protection-79' Exhibition Opens in Moscow A 1
UN Human Rights Commission Deplores Situation in S. Africa A 1

UNITED STATES

Carter Press Conference on PRC, Camp David, Iran B 1
Encouragement of PRC Aggression [Anichkin] B 2
Soviet Threat a False Pretext for U.S. Mideast Intervention [Druzhinin] B 3
House Committee Approves Bill on Relations With Taiwan B 3
Senate Committee Approval [PRAVDA 25 Feb]

CHINA

Comparison of I. Aleksandrov Article on PRC Aggression C 1
Further Commentary on PRC's Aggression Against SRV C 1
May Harm Ties With West [Shishlin] C 1
Beijing's 'New Maneuvers, Subterfuges' C 2
Egyptian Envoy Leaves for PRC To Strengthen Relations C 2

EAST EUROPE

Kornilov Criticizes SFRY Press Reportage on PRC Aggression D 1
Gromyko Holds Talks With GDR Foreign Minister Fischer D 1

WEST EUROPE & CANADA

Moscow Comments on FRG Defence Minister's Interview [Strzhizhovskiy] E 1
Tolpegin Warns of Possible Consequences of FRG Strategy Debate [ZA RUBEZHOM No 89] E 1
Report on Elections to Spain's Cortes E 4
Pre-Election Scene E 4
Elections Open E 4
U.S. Uses Bases in Norway for Monitoring USSR E 4

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Egypt Seeks To 'Camouflage Capitulation' in Camp David 2 [Kashoyan in NOVOYE VREMYA No 9] F 1
Egypt Plays Second Fiddle to U.S., Israel in Mideast Talks F 3

Commentator Praises PLO Role in Obstructing Camp David Deal F 4
[Alanov in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 17 Feb]
Moscow Persian on Evans-Novak Criticism of USSR Radio F 5
NIOC Official Says Multinational Oil Companies Must Quit Iran F 6
Decision on Kurdish Nationality; Tudeh Party Statement Issued F 6
Belyakov Confirms CPSU Solidarity With Palestinian Cause F 7
Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Jordanian Ambassador Confer F 8
[JNA]
Moscow Suggests U.S. Fueling Fire of War Between YAR, PDRY F 8
Sarkisov Attends Kuwait Embassy Reception F 8

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Second Congress of Turkish Labor Party Held G 1
Congress Opens G 1
Results of Congress G 1

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Ethiopia's Mengistu Comments on Socialist Internationalism H 1
SWAPO Leader's Remarks on Arrival in Ethiopia Reported H 1
Rhodesia Dissolves Parliament, Prepares for Elections H 1
More on OAU Ministerial Council Session H 2
ANC Leader Nzo Interviewed H 2
Session Proceedings H 2

SOUTH ASIA

Ponomarev Praises Soviet-Afghan Treaty, Solidarity J 1
Afghanistan's Transformations Reason for U.S. Aid Cut J 1
[Ptashnikov]
Indian Leaders Condemn PRC Aggression Against Vietnam J 2
Indian Defense Minister Stresses Vigilance Against Attack J 2
USSR To Launch Indian Earth Resources Satellite in 1979 J 2

INDOCHINA

Continued Reportage on PRC Aggression Against Vietnam L 1
TASS 28 Feb Roundup L 1
SRV Beijing Charge on Aggression L 1
Correspondent's Lang Son Report L 2
[Skvortsov in PRAVDA 23 Feb]
Leontyev Reviews Chinese Attack L 4
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 25 Feb]
Cambodia's Ros Samay Interviewed Before Leaving USSR L 6
[PRAVDA 25 Feb]

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japanese Failure To Condemn PRC Attack on Vietnam Scored M 1
[Demchenko in IZVESTIYA 25 Feb]
Japan Marks Anniversary of Bikini Explosion M 2

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

CPSU Official in Mexico Warns of Possible Intervention in SRV N 1
[Mexico City]
OAS Says U.S. Protection Bill Will Intensify Contradictions N 1
[Gan]

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Gromyko Election Speech Views USSR Foreign Policy R 1
Party, State Resolution To Improve Construction Cadres R 6
[PRAVDA 13 Feb]
Kirgiz, Kazakh, Armenian Personnel Changes Reported R 9
Weekly Refutes Claimed Suppression of Religion in USSR R 10
[NOVOYE VREMYA]
Maryyskiy Obkom First Secretary Nikonov Honored R 10

[For press versions of the Supreme Soviet election speeches by Ustinov, Pelshe, Masherov, Shevardnadze, Andropov and Aliyev, see Supplement to the 1 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, No 042, Supplement 003.]

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmonauts Continue To Reactivate Salyut Systems U 1
International Program on Magnetosphere Research Described U 1

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Sokolov Views World Situation in Army Day Speech V 1
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Feb]

"ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION-79' EXHIBITION OPENS IN MOSCOW

LD282236 Moscow TASS in English 2110 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--On view at the international exhibition "Environmental Protection-79" is a wide range of equipment from a conventional apartment fan to an analysing system based on the use of a laser. The exhibition opened in Moscow today. In front of the biggest pavilion of the Sokolnikiy exhibition township are flown the flags of 15 [as received] countries; the USSR and the USA, Hungary and Poland, the GDR and Finland, the FRG and France.

The emblem of the exhibition is the planet earth among boundless blue skies. One hundred prestigious firms have displayed diverse equipment meant for assisting mankind in preventing environmental pollution. The nature protection service passes over from designing analysts to forming national, and in the future international, complexes for the control of the atmosphere, soil and the world ocean.

The present exhibition is the first of its kind, the inauguration ceremony was told by Yuriy Prikhodov, vice-president of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It is of a more practical, engineering character than similar exhibitions in the USA and Japan.

The Soviet section is the biggest at the exhibition. A total of 11,000 million roubles are to be spent in the USSR in the current five-year plan period (1976-1980) alone on the construction of giant coastal stations for clearing sea basins, mills with systems of recycling water, plants for the prevention of atmospheric pollution over cities and other installations.

Effective environmental protection is impossible without international cooperation, said Yuriy Izrael, chairman of the Soviet Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control. The exhibition shows that important steps have already been made in this matter. The inscription on the stand "Carl Zeiss Jena" says that this famous GDR firm is participating in work on 62 subjects jointly with Soviet organisations, cooperates with 22 mills and research centers of the USSR. In the section of French firms is a poster advertising water ozonization stations built for the Soviet cities of Moscow and Kiev.

The participants in the exhibition hope not only to share engineering knowhow, but also to conclude mutually beneficial contracts.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION DEPLORES SITUATION IN S. AFRICA

LD281956 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Geneva, February 28, TASS--The basic human right to live is being systematically violated in South Africa. Wholesale massacres of opponents of the racialist regime are being perpetrated there, the political prisoners, including women and underaged, are being tortured. The number of people kept in jail is increasing at twice the rate of the growth of the country's population.

These facts were adduced in the speeches of the participants of the regular session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission, now under way here, and in the report drawn up for the session by a special group of experts. The document stresses that the situation with human rights in this region became even more sinister in the past year.

The racialist regimes could not exist without outside support, it was noted by the Soviet representative Valerian Zorin. American banks have granted the Republic of South Africa a loan exceeding 2,200 million dollars. Investments of British monopolies in the Republic of South Africa are evaluated at approximately 5-7 thousand million dollars.

CARTER PRESS CONFERENCE ON PRC, CAMP DAVID, IRAN

LD281940 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1806 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Washington, 28 February, TASS--Answering questions at a press conference in the White House, U.S. President J. Carter touched on the Chinese forces' incursion into Vietnam. He called China's aggression against the SRV merely a "crossing of the Vietnamese border," a matter over which the United States had already expressed its "disapproval." In this connection, U.S. political observers are pointing out that, in essence, the United States has adopted a position of indirectly encouraging the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. "The United States," writes the WALL STREET JOURNAL, "has virtually supported the Chinese incursion into that country."

Of the present trip to Beijing by U.S. Treasury Secretary Blumenthal, the President said that it was "appropriate and timely," and referred to the need for an "official representative" to be at the official opening of the U.S. Embassy on 1 March. Here he emphasized that there was "no disharmony at all" in relations between the United States and China.

Dwelling on the recent talks between U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown and the leaders of a number of Near East countries, the President said that the United States does not intend "to create military bases in this region or deploy U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia." It is known, however, that both Brown himself, and U.S. Energy Secretary Schlesinger, were saying something quite different the day before. For example, Schlesinger stated publicly that the U.S. military presence "had to include the deployment of servicemen." Who, then, are we to believe?

The President stressed that the Near Eastern countries should know that the United States is devoting particular interest to them "on the level of oil supplies and the routes by which the oil is delivered." He said that the United States really wishes to strengthen its allies' joint responsibility and potential. The statement accords with the conclusions of the American press that Washington is pursuing a course of forming a military bloc in the Near East, in which, according to U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, the United States will assume the role of "consultant and arms supplier."

On relations with Iran, J. Carter said that the United States is trying "to utilize in the best way" the change of government in that country, and to do "everything in its power to protect U.S. interests." [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1637 GMT on 28 February, also reporting on the press conference, adds at this point: "He hinted that the United States hopes for a future restoration of military cooperation with Iran, which was halted after the fall of the shah's regime."]

The President was asked: What does the American administration intend to do in connection with the stopping of Iranian oil supplies to Israel? J. Carter answered that he had immediately informed Israel that the United States would supply it with U.S. oil, and with oil from other countries.

During the press conference the President paid great attention to the Camp David negotiations, saying that he is occupied by this issue "more than by any other international problem whatsoever." He noted that despite all the efforts of the United States, attempts to conclude an Egyptian-Israeli deal are deadlocked, but he continued to insist on the conclusion of a separate treaty which, as is known, is decisively rejected by many Arab countries.

Encouragement of PRC Aggression

LD281644 Moscow TASS in English 1629 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--TASS commentator Oleg Anichkin writes:

At a time when protests against China's aggression in Vietnam are mounting through the world, American mass media are doing their utmost to serve up U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal's visit to Beijing for world public opinion as all but a peace-making mission. According to reports from Beijing M. Blumenthal expressed concern over the situation on the Chinese-Vietnamese border and presented Deng with a message from President Carter, the contents of which were not disclosed.

One can only speculate about what the American President deemed necessary to convey to the Beijing leaders. In this case, some light is being probably shed on the matter by the President's remarks made at his latest White-House press conference, where he told pressmen that the U.S. expressed to the Chinese the most resolute disapproval over their crossing of the Vietnamese border and expressed serious disapproval to the Russians and Vietnamese for the crossing by the Vietnamese of the Cambodian border.

It follows from this statement, that Washington has no intention at all to condemn the Chinese armed incursion into Vietnam. According to American concepts, China's actions are by no means an aggression, but merely a crossing of Vietnam's border. As to the disapproval Carter expressed to Vietnam, it constitutes nothing but an attempt to link up the Chinese aggression with internal processes in Kampuchea, to put on a par the aggressor and the victim of aggression. Such a version in assessing events is aimed, judging by everything, at showing that Beijing's actions were allegedly forced on it and, thereby, at justifiying them.

It is difficult to get rid of the thought that this position by Washington, as well as Blumenthal's trip, at any rate, look like encouragement of the Chinese aggression.

Words of admonition now uttered by American high-ranking officials in Beijing bear testimony rather to United States' attempts to blunt in every way the impression gained by world public opinion and leaders of different countries that there is a direct relation between China's aggression and Deng Xiaoping's visit to the U.S.

A spade must be called a spade. In the existing circumstances, China's actions constitute an aggression, stated India's Prime Minister Desai. China is waging a real war against Vietnam and this is by no means a "limited operation," as M. Blumenthal was told in Beijing. "This is a war," writes the Paris paper L'HUMANITE, "which for its scale resembles the American aggression against Vietnam."

The whole world must realize that in Vietnam Beijing is conducting its great-China, hegemonic policy in practice.

SOVIET THREAT A FALSE PRETEXT FOR U.S. MIDEAST INTERVENTION

LD281916 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Aleksandr Druzhinin commentary]

[Text] Voices have lately been heard more and more often in the political and military circles of the United States calling on the Washington administration to take urgent steps in connection with the situation in the Persian Gulf area. More from our observer Aleksandr Druzhinin:

Characteristic from that point of view was a statement made recently by Senator Henry Jackson. The senator, who spoke in a reactionary vein so typical of him, declared that there was an impending threat of Soviet interference in the Persian Gulf area. He went on to say that it was time to stop repeating silly statements that the United States could not act as a world policeman, and start forming a bloc of nations prepared to check a Russian threat. The call of the Washington anti-Sovieteer could be ignored if he were just alone to make it, but it was backed by the power [as heard] secretary, James Schlesinger, and the defense secretary, Harold Brown, who went even further in their plans. They feel that to have a bloc spearheaded against the Soviet Union is not enough. What is needed is a direct armed interference of the United States to resist what they call a Soviet threat. In fact, they call for such an interference, adding that it's already being considered.

Do Washington officials cite any convincing facts that prove that Soviet interference in the Persian Gulf area really exists? No, for the simple reason that there are no such facts. The Soviet Union has never interfered in the affairs of Iran or any other country in the area. As for the American interference, it can be proved very easily. But neither the support of the shah regime, with the help of the Central Intelligence Agency and SAVAK, nor demonstrations of American military strength near the Iranian borders, led to an outcome desirable for the United States. The Iranians will not be deciding their future themselves. That, however, does not come to the liking of American politicians. Iran's example may turn out to be contagious to other countries in the area. The United States, therefore, will hope to reverse the march of events in Iran. It tries at the same time to establish more military and naval bases on the Arabian Peninsula and in the Persian Gulf area. It seeks to impose on the countries of the area agreements providing for the deliveries of American-made arms to them. There is also talk about sending American troops to the area. Significantly the United States puts its main stakes on Israel and Egypt, the two countries that follow in the wake of the American imperialist policies in the Middle East.

When it comes to talk about an alleged Soviet penetration in the area it serves to meet a very definite end, that a false pretext is used once again to cover up American escalation of the interventionist policy in the region.

HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROVES BILL ON RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN

LD281636 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Washington, February 28, TASS--The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives has approved the governmental bill on the status of the U.S. relations with Taiwan in the light of "normalisation" of relations between Washington and Beijing.

The bill in actual fact legalises the concept of "two Chinas" and guarantees preservation of American domination in all spheres of life in Taiwan.

The entire complex of American-Taiwan relations practically remains unchanged, with the only difference that as of March 1 they will be called "unofficial". Almost all bilateral treaties and agreements will be in effect, as before. Diplomatic missions of both sides remain in Washington and Taipei. And though they will not be now called "embassies", staff-members of the Taiwan representation in the United States will enjoy, as before, all privileges of diplomats.

As if to confirm that the point in question is nothing but a purely formal "change of the signboard", which in actual fact does not affect American-Taiwan links, congressmen included into the bill a special resolution which points out that any armed attack on Taiwan will be a cause of serious concern of the United States. Earlier, a similar amendment was passed by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Local observers point out that the thesis of "two Chinas", reflected in the governmental bill, has in actual fact been tacitly approved by Beijing in the course of its recent negotiations with Washington. The Beijing leadership, which previously declared its determination to have Taiwan reunited with the motherland at any cost, writes the newspaper Washington POST, has forgotten its former intractability in this fundamental issue and will not object against the wordings included into the bill on American-Taiwan relations.

Senate Committee Approval

LD011255 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "On American-Taiwanese Relations"]

[Text] Washington, 24 February--The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee has passed an administration bill on the status of future relations between the United States and Taiwan after the official establishment of full diplomatic relations with China on 1 March this year. The bill envisages maintaining the full complex of American-Taiwan ties at the previous level and magnitude, with the one exception that from 1 March they will be called "unofficial." Thus legislation is consolidating the American thesis of "two Chinas."

The United States is maintaining its embassy in Taiwan; it will now be called a "nongovernmental institution."

COMPARISON OF I. ALEKSANDROV ARTICLE ON PRC AGGRESSION

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 28 February carries the text of the article, "A Resolute Rebuff for Beijing's Aggression" by "I. Aleksandrov," carried by TASS and published in the 28 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages C1-5. Comparison with the PRAVDA version reveals the following variations:

On page C 1 PRAVDA omits the first paragraph of the TASS version and begins with the second paragraph;

Same page, third paragraph, third line, PRAVDA uses the word "incursion" [vtorzheniye] instead of "aggression";

Same page, fourth paragraph, fifth line, PRAVDA uses the word "incursion" instead of "thrust";

Page C 2, third paragraph, first line, PRAVDA reads "Pol Pot and his henchmen come to power through the good graces of Beijing..."

Page C 3, paragraph seven, first line, PRAVDA places the word "ignore" in quotation marks;

Same page, last paragraph, penultimate line, PRAVDA uses "thesis" instead of "propaganda ploy";

Page C 4, paragraph three, line two, PRAVDA reads "...the Chinese aggression most resembles if not approval, then at least indirect encouragement. Official..."

Same page, paragraph five, line two, PRAVDA reads "...of Beijing's actions. And here it used a "neat" wording: so as to avoid--God forbid--clouding the prospects for a..."

Page C 5, paragraph six, line one, PRAVDA uses the word "international" [internatsionalnyy] instead of "internationalist."

FURTHER COMMENTARY ON PRC'S AGGRESSION AGAINST SRV

May Harm Ties With West

LD282308 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Here is a commentary on the latest news. At the microphone is international affairs journalist Nikolay Shishlin:

[Shishlin] Beijing's undeclared war against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has been going on for almost 2 weeks. Having thrown large forces into the battle and while bringing up more and more reinforcements, China is giving its aggression still greater scale and depth. Moving into the hills and vales of Vietnam, the Chinese interventionists are attempting on the political plane to portray their actions as some sort of trifle; as some sort of engagement which is limited in both time and space.

We have here, of course, in the main a purely verbal smokescreen. But this verbal smokescreen contains a definite political load. In striking up relations with the West, and attempting to find clients wherever possible, Beijing is afraid that the aggression against Vietnam might break the threads of cooperation which it has already managed to secure.

These are British Industry Secretary Varley, U.S. Treasury Secretary Blumenthal, and Common Market representative Jenkins. There are also some others.

In Beijing and also beyond Beijing attempts are being made to examine some sort of arithmetical calculation in order to work out the cost of the Chinese aggression and to determine its outcome. But this outcome is determined not by arithmetical methods. Politics have their own way of keeping accounts. And these accounts include the solidarity front with Vietnam, which has already acquired an international scale. These accounts include the allies of Vietnam. These accounts include the heroism and courage of the Vietnamese people itself. And one can say with certainty that an unjust cause cannot have a good outcome.

Beijing's 'New Maneuvers, Subterfuges'

LD281912 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

["Beijing's Manoeuvres"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, February 28, TASS--It is noteworthy that in an attempt to bring down the wave of protests in all continents and deceive world public as regards the real character of its actions in Vietnam, Beijing has recourse to ever new manoeuvres and subterfuges. The Beijing leaders speak at length on some "negotiations," using these claims as a smokescreen for their large-scale aggression, while continuing at the same time to step up their offensive operations.

Contrary to the claims that they will withdraw their troops, the Washington POST notes, the Chinese are advancing deeper into Vietnam's territory, while fighting in some areas is building up in ferocity.

Beijing's present manoeuvres must be regarded only as an attempt by the Chinese aggressors to camouflage their criminal actions by hypocritical speculation on their "peaceableness." It is not by accident that the Chinese had recourse to this speculation at a time when visitors from the USA, Britain, Yugoslavia and a representative of the EEC, are staying in Beijing. These visits to China at this juncture are regarded by many people as indirect approval of the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. China apparently wants to justify by its false speculation not only its own behaviour, but also the actions of the countries which are accused of conniving with the Chinese aggression.

EGYPTIAN ENVOY LEAVES FOR PRC TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS

LD271824 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Cairo AL-AHRAM writes that the Egyptian Government's special envoy, Hasan at-Tuhami, has left for China with a personal message from President Anwar as-Sadat to Chinese Premier Hua Guofeng. The newspaper points out that in this message the Egyptian side draws the attention of the Chinese leaders to consolidating and strengthening relations with Egypt.

Political observers believe that Egypt is making known its desire to expand its relations with China at a time when the Chinese aggressors are expanding the scope of their military operations against Socialist Vietnam. Observers point out that such actions by the Egyptian leadership demonstrate its disregard for the principles of nonalinement and also its full support for the unlawful measures of the aggressors.

KORNILOV CRITICIZES SFRY PRESS REPORTAGE ON PRC AGGRESSION

LD231858 Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

["Strange Logics"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes: The wave of protests in connection with Beijing's aggression against the independent and sovereign SRV is mounting throughout the world. Prominent politicians and public figures in different countries as well as the press express serious and quite justified alarm over the consequences to which the Beijing rulers' hegemonic policy may lead the world and demand an end to the aggression, the prompt withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnamese soil. The world press notes with satisfaction that the courageous Vietnamese people, which has thirty years' experience of fighting foreign interventionists, is giving a fitting rebuff to the Beijing aggressors.

The Yugoslav press, too, spares no statements about concern over the situation that has shaped now in Southeast Asia. But what arrests one's attention is that in its commentaries on the state of affairs in that region, some Yugoslav papers are showing concern not over the aggression perpetrated by Beijing against a neighbouring sovereign country, by trampling upon all generally accepted norms of international law and the UN Charter, and not by the Chinese leadership's intentions, clear from reports, to expand the scale of the aggression. These papers' "concern," however wild and improbable, is over the fact that the victim of aggression is increasing its resistance to the aggressor. "The Chinese were probably prepared to start a gradual withdrawal of some units, however it is probable that at this time they were faced with a strong counterstrike of Vietnamese units," writes the Belgrade paper POLITIKA EXPRESS. "Because of the Vietnamese counteroffensive the Chinese troops cannot retreat," writes in unison with it the VJESNIK of Zagreb. The weekly NIN states in a report from Beijing that the counteroffensive by Vietnamese troops "will retard the implementation of China's primary plan of retreating."

As one reads these writings in POLITIKA EXPRESS one is really amazed: Well, it turns out that the fact that Beijing's aggression against the SRV continues and that Chinese troops have not yet been withdrawn from alien soil is not the fault of Beijing with its excessive hegemonic ambitions, but of the Vietnamese, who are staunchly defending against the interventionists their home, their freedom and independence. This is a strange logic to say the least. Perhaps some Yugoslav press bodies which declare their "concern" over the situation in Southeast Asia are actually concerned not so much by the aggression itself and its consequences, but lest the aggressor, who is being subjected to increasing blows from the SRV Armed Forces, "should lose face"?

GROMYKO HOLDS TALKS WITH GDR FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER

LD281228 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Talks took place in Moscow today between Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and Fischer, member of the SED Central Committee and GDR foreign minister, who has arrived in the Soviet Union on a visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government. Questions of the further development of fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the USSR and GDR were discussed. In considering topical international problems, main attention was devoted to questions of safeguarding peace and stability in international relations, and also to the situation in the Far East and in Southeast Asia, and the coordination of the foreign policy activities of the two countries. Also today, Gromyko gave a luncheon in honor of Fischer during which an exchange of speeches took place.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON FRG DEFENSE MINISTER'S INTERVIEW

LD281510 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] FRG Defense Minister Hans Apel has given an interview to the press bulletin of the Social Democratic Party, in which he evaluates the results of his talks in the United States. The minister points to the necessity of continuing debates concerning medium-range missiles. The Bonn minister's statement, notes Lev Strzhizhovskiy, international affairs journalist, is quote symptomatic. Returning from the United States, he essentially admitted that Washington was continuing its crude pressure on its partners in the North Atlantic bloc with the aim of forcing them to agree to the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles on their territory.

This is being done on the pretext of modernization and replacement of outdated missiles with newer arms. During Apel's visit the question of deployment of missiles was discussed with Brown, the Pentagon chief. Washington is stepping up its pressure on its Eruopean allies, but the Western capitals are not hurrying. Nobody wants to be the first in such a clearly provocative measure, and politicians are for the time being looking to one another, holding back from taking a decision.

The cause of this is the firmness with which the West Europeans are coming out against American plans for further imposing neutron weapons and new missiles. As the New York TIMES said recently, the Pentagon strategists are running into opposition from their NATO partners, who are concerned at the nationwide protests in their countries. No one knows this better than Apel, a member of the FRG Social Democratic Party. While the FRG was being put under particular pressure by the United States, Wehner, the chairman of the Parliamentary Group of the Social Democratic Party in the Bundestag, made a statement that the discussion of the growth in the Soviet military threat did not correspond with reality, and that the Soviet Union was not threatening anyone. And if that is the case, considers Wehner, there is no need to rearm or to deploy medium-range missiles on FRG territory.

The statement by the authoritative politician was supported in the most varied public circles of the country. As in the protest campaign against neutron weapons last year, meetings and marches of protest are now being held throughout Western Europe, and signatures on petitions against deployment of the new missiles are being collected.

The will of the Western European people is keeping the rulers of the NATO countries from accepting the American proposals, the grave consequences of which it is not difficult to imagine.

TOLPEGIN WARNS OF POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF FRG STRATEGY DEBATE

LD281401 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 9 Signed to Press 22 Feb 79 pp 8-9 LD

[A. Tolpegin article: "'Deterrent Strategy' or Security Through Disarmament?"]

[Text] H. Wehner, chairman of the Social Democratic Party [SPD] faction in West Germany's Bundestag, has touched on urgent disarmament problems in recent interviews. Talking with a correspondent of the newspaper NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, published in Essen, Wehner said that by warning against the deployment of medium-range missiles in West Europe he intends to "help avert the temperature of relations between the Soviet Union and West European countries--and the FRG above all--from dropping once again to zero and below." Replying to a question on North German radio, the Social Democratic leader came out decisively against the notorious "Soviet threat" thesis being bandied about in the West: "Let them argue about it as much as they like and judge it how they will, but the Soviet Union has weapons for defense, not aggression." Finally, in an interview in the Dutch newspaper NRC HANDELSBLAD Wehner pointed out that FRG representatives are holding up progress at the Vienna talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe.

It is clear to anyone who follows the development of events in Europe and the course of the talks on disarmament problems that these statements merely state obvious facts. Indeed, what besides increased tension on our continent and a greater threat of war can result from realizing the plans drawn up by NATO with the FRG's participation to "modernize" the nuclear missiles deployed on West German soil? For the fashionable, even attractive, word "modernization" conceals the desire to make a qualitative leap in the arms race. NATO strategists openly say that the new missiles, with a range 2.5 times greater than present ones, will be targeted on the Soviet Union. It is alleged that the NATO countries are in dire need of these missiles, frequently called "Eurostrategic" missiles because they have no defense against the Soviet SS-20 missiles, as they are called in the Western press.

And yet these allegations are contradicted by the widely recognized fact of the existing approximate equality of forces of the two opposing military and political groupings in Europe. In addition, the Soviet Union has repeatedly proclaimed its readiness to agree on the mutual reduction or prohibition of any types of weapons--provided this does not run counter to the principle of not prejudicing the security of either side. So in this case, too, talk of a "Soviet threat" is totally groundless and serves, as always, to conceal actions aimed at altering the existing balance of forces and achieving military superiority.

As for the FRG's position at the Vienna talks, there is no doubt about how important it is for their success; for it is not for nothing that this country is called "the second NATO power." So far, however, no proposals aimed at overcoming the deadlock at the talks have issued from the FRG, although it has been said repeatedly that such proposals are being formulated. On the contrary, the FRG's position remains the most inflexible, and it is not least because of this position that the socialist countries' compromise proposals have gone unanswered for more than 7 months.

Thus Wehner's statements cannot be regarded as sensational. Nevertheless, they have given rise to a stormy political debate in the FRG. The Social Democratic weekly VORWAERTS has written: "One is always surprised how hysterically people in our country react to someone calling things by their proper names and thereby confirming positions that have long been proclaimed by the SPD. As a matter of fact Herbert Wehner has merely repeated in his statements an old viewpoint according to which detente loses its substance unless results are achieved in the military-political sphere."

But if you analyze carefully what is happening in the Bonn political arena, neither the debate itself over Wehner's statements nor the pungency and intensity with which it is being conducted will cause surprise. There are two distinct lines in the FRG on detente and disarmament issues. One of them aims at continuing the detente policy, reaching agreement with the socialist countries on disarmament problems and deepening mutual cooperation. This line finds expression in numerous statements by figures in the ruling parties--the SPD and the Free Democratic Party--in favor of continuing and developing the "Ostpolitik" begun by the Brandt-Scheel government in the early seventies. The other line, stubbornly pursued by the opposition bloc of the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union, is the direct opposite. It is a line of building up arms and a "deterrence strategy," of fueling tension and of confrontation with socialist neighbors. The trouble, however, is that in its practical actions the FRG Government frequently gives in to pressure brought to bear on it inside the country--by the opposition--and from outside--by Washington, that is demanding its NATO allies build up arms from year to year. Under these conditions any attempt to prompt the government to implement more consistently and resolutely the principles which it itself has proclaimed elicits a stormy reaction both within the government coalition parties and in the opposition ranks.

It should be said that H. Wehner is by no means alone among prominent West German Social Democratic figures in his concern for the fate of detente. According to DER SPIEGEL, SPD Federal Secretary E. Bahr has spoken out against modernizing nuclear missiles, since this could entail unforeseen consequences.

This is how A. Pawelczyk, chairman of the Disarmament and Arms Control Subcommittee of the Bundestag Foreign Affairs Committee, formulated his position in an interview published in the press bulletin PARLAMENTARISCH-POLITISCHER PRESSEDIENST: "If we did not seek to conduct talks, but rather began a movement along the path of arming ourselves with medium-range missiles, the entire foreign policy situation would immediately change. It would place a substantial burden on East-West relations. The negative consequences of this would go beyond SALT and affect the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe and the meeting to be held in Madrid in 1980 of representatives of the countries which participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. In other words, we would be putting at stake what we achieved with difficulty in 1969 and in the sphere of foreign policy and economic cooperation between the two blocs."

Seizing, as a pretext, statements by the above-named and certain other SPD figures, the opposition and the press supporting it have mounted a fierce propaganda campaign. By fuelling fears of "Soviet military superiority" the organizers of this campaign are seeking to present the planned modernization of NATO armed forces as a supposedly essential measure to "restore strategic equilibrium." And when this "equilibrium" is achieved, they say, it will be possible to talk of disarmament. Thus an old slogan, originally put forward by Adenauer, has been dragged out into the light of day: "Toward disarmament through armament."

F.-J. Strauss has spoken out most categorically, as always, in the rightists' camp. The Bavarian prime minister has declared that the FRG must deploy new nuclear missiles on its territory even if the other European NATO countries refuse to follow this example. Strauss tried to create the impression that these measures represent nothing new in principle. "All this," he said, "is merely the renewal and further development of the weapons systems introduced at the end of the fifties," that is, when Strauss himself headed the Defense Ministry.

It is appropriate to recall that the policy of that time, which Strauss was active in shaping, led the FRG into an impasse, turning it into the chief source of tension on the European Continent. Attempts to continue this policy under modern conditions are far more dangerous than two decades ago, since present weapons systems possess far greater destructive power than previous ones.

But what stand has been taken in this debate by those directly responsible for the FRG's foreign policy line and military policy? Statements made by government spokesmen both inside and outside the Bundestag leave an impression of duplicity and contradiction. Indeed, how can one reconcile denial of the thesis "first arm, then disarm" with the statement that the West's modernization of its arms "goes without saying"? How does recognition of the fact that "East-West military equilibrium has now on the whole been established" conform with the expression of readiness to fulfill strictly the long-term arms-buildup program adopted at the NATO Council's Washington session last year? How can one account for the fact that emphasis on the importance of the Vienna talks for strengthening European security has not been backed up by constructive steps which could promote their success?

The current political debate in the FRG has elicited a broad response among the West German population, for it involves its vital interests. The progressive public resolutely protests against plans to turn FRG territory into a launchpad for new American nuclear missiles and demands that the FRG Government concentrate its efforts not on further building up arms but on seeking paths toward real disarmament and toward strengthening all-European cooperation.

This debate cannot leave indifferent the FRG's near and distant neighbors and all Europeans. For peace and quiet on our continent largely depend on that country's political course.

REPORT ON ELECTIONS TO SPAIN'S CORTES

Preelection Scene

LD282000 Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Madrid, February 28, TASS--Almost 40,000 polling stations will open their doors tomorrow throughout Spain.

Special importance is being attached in that country to the forthcoming elections to the Cortes, the highest legislative organ of Spain. The elections will be held for the first time after the adoption of the constitution, which legalised the principal changes in the social and political life of society. Their returns may exert a serious influence on the balance of political forces, on the country's further development. In the course of the election campaign the ruling Democratic Centre Union, which is striving to remain in power, and the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, contending for the formation of a new government, did not stint mutual reproaches and promises to take the country out of the economic impasse, to uphold democracy. However, many pledges given by their representatives, as stressed by the press, were of a general and hazy nature.

The Communist Party of Spain came out in the course of the election campaign with a program of measures aimed at solving the principal problems now confronting the country. The communists propose concrete steps to resolve the economic crisis. At the same time, the Communist Party of Spain, proceeding from the premise that no party will receive on March 1st an absolute majority, necessary to form a stable one-party cabinet, went on record for the creation of a broad government coalition with the participation of representatives of all the democratic forces.

Elections Open

LD011038 Moscow TASS in English 1011 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Madrid, March 1, TASS--The election to the Cortes (parliament) began today in Spain. More than 26 million people were invited to take part in the elections. They will elect 350 deputies of the congress and 208 senators.

The Communist Party of Spain, proceeding from the belief that not one of the parties will be able to get the absolute majority declared for forming a government of broad coalition with the participation of representatives of all democratic forces.

U.S. USES BASES IN NORWAY FOR MONITORING USSR

LD282334 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1952 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

["To the Detriment of National Interests"--TASS headline]

[Text] Oslo, 28 February (TASS)--A report published here by the Norwegian Peace Research Institute points out that a network of military stations for radio espionage against the Soviet Union, used by U.S. espionage services, has been set up on Norwegian territory, mainly near the USSR border in the region of the towns of Kirkenes, Vadso and Vardo.

The setting up and functioning of such military facilities on Norwegian territory in the vicinity of the USSR border, the conclusions of the report emphasize, contradict Norway's policy which does not permit the stationing of foreign bases in the country during peacetime. The report views such activity as a provocation against the Soviet Union.

In the view of many Norwegian observers, the facts cited in the report have come as a bombshell. Officials are refusing to comment, on the pretext that the facts must be "studied," while through their newspaper AFTENPOSTEN rightist circles' spokesmen have said bluntly that the electronic espionage is, as they put it, a stabilizing element in relations between East and West.

Extensive public circles are voicing alrm over the American espionage services' utilization of Norwegian territory. As former CIA boss W. Colby has admitted in his memoires, as long ago as the fifties American espionage was extensively active in the Scandinavian countries, including Norway, setting up sabotage groups, arms and explosives stores for combatting the Soviet Union. The former CIA agent V. Marchetti has admitted, as the Norwegian newspaper DAGBLADET has written, that the American espionage services use special stations in Norway for espionage against the Soviet Union.

The Norwegian public demands that an end be put to the use of the country's territory for such ends.

EGYPT SEEKS TO 'CAMOUFLAGE CAPITULATION' IN CAMP DAVID 2

LD011233 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 9, 23 Feb 79 pp 12-13 LD

[G. Kashoyan article: "Surrounding the Second Camp David" under the rubric "The Near East"]

[Text] A ceremony took place on 19 February in Tehran, at the building of the former Israeli Mission, to mark the opening of the PLO Mission. The line drawn up by Iran's present leaders when they were heading the opposition to the shah's regime is being translated into practice. Proceeding from loyalty to the Islamic world, the government appointed by Ayatollah Khomeyni has broken the ties between its own country and Israel and has openly taken the side of the Arabs in the Near East conflict. Israel has been deprived of an important source of oil supplies which used to meet 60 percent of its needs and has found itself in even greater isolation. The whole political situation in the Near East is changing. Iran is no longer the counterbalance to Syria and Iraq that it was until recently, in the opinion of Israeli strategists.

But Tel Aviv is consoling itself with the fact that it is not only Tel Aviv's positions that have suffered as a result of the Iranian revolution. The interests of Israel's closest ally and patron have been affected to an even greater extent. The anti-imperialist and anti-American slogans of the Iranian revolution provide grounds for assuming that the United States has lost a loyal satellite and its gendarme in the Persian Gulf region. The United States, Tel Aviv believes, now has only one reliable buttress in the Near East, namely Israel, and it is with a sense of its heightened influence on the plans of its overseas partner that Israel is entering the new round of talks with the United States and Egypt to begin on 21 February at Camp David.

Cairo, which has also viewed the events in Iran with alarm, nevertheless has calculations of its own. The Egyptian leadership is taking into account both the losses Israel has sustained and also the haste with which the United States is trying to create a new bloc, according to Washington's plans, designed to replace Iran in protecting U.S. imperialism's strategic and economic positions in the Near East region.

A 10-day tour by U.S. Defense Secretary Brown to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt and Israel, that is, to the countries which it is proposed to include in this bloc, has just ended. "Defense Secretary Harold Brown," the New York TIMES wrote, "toured the Near East handing out promises right and left to supply F-5 fighters, M-60 tanks, C-130 transport aircraft and other modern U.S. weapons. He was like Captain Cook, who used to win over the Hawaiian Islanders by making them presents of colored glass trinkets." With the aid of "trinkets" of this kind, with the aid of political or economic pressure, the United States is hastening to implement its scheme, which is to be based on a separate deal between Cairo and Tel Aviv. Realizing this, President as-Sadat is hoping to secure from the United States the kind of pressure on Israel which will help to conceal the deal with Tel Aviv with at least a fig-leaf of seemliness. Especially as Cairo has gone to extremes in its concessions to the United States and Israel, and any further backing down would threaten for Cairo a total rupture with the Arab world.

Back in September last year, after the first Camp David conference, all three participants in the talks hastened to make a statement to the effect that the question discussed at the talks had been solved. All that remained, they said, was to reach agreement on certain "technicalities," and a peace would be signed between Egypt and Israel. A special term was put into circulation: "linkage" between the two documents compiled at Camp David, the first of which was called "A Framework for Peace in the Near East" and the second "A Framework for the Conclusion of a Peace Treaty Between Egypt and Israel." The modest word "linkage" was to emphasize that what was involved were trifles which would not delay the signing of the peace treaty scheduled for 17 December. But the "trifles" had not been overcome by 17 December, nor have they been surmounted to this day.

The controversy over one of the "technicalities" shows what lurks behind the disagreements that have cropped up. Egypt is insisting that it be made clear in article six of the draft treaty, or at least in an accompanying note, that Egypt's commitments with respect to Israel not take precedence over its commitments with respect to other Arab countries in joint defense. The Israelis are categorically rejecting such an interpretation, stating that that would emasculate the entire treaty. But in reality it is not a question of interpreting one of the provisions of the agreement in one way or another. Cairo is hoping that by introducing such a phrase into the treaty, it will be able to camouflage its total capitulation.

Such camouflage is extremely important for Cairo. Perhaps it believes that this will attenuate the sharply adverse attitude to the deal with Israel of at least some of the countries that participated in the Baghdad meeting of Arab heads of state and government. As is known, the participants in that meeting, including representatives of conservative governments, not only condemned the Camp David agreements but even outlined measures which should be resorted to if Egypt signs a separate peace.

The prospect of quarreling with the rulers of the rich oil-producing countries frightens President as-Sadat. After all, however highly he rates his ties with the United States, which is allocating $900 million annually to Egypt in economic aid, relations with the Arab oil-producing countries, among which Saudi Arabia alone gives Egypt $2 billion per year, must be assessed even higher.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia has quite definitely voiced its misgivings. Certain influential Saudis commented extremely sharply on the Camp David draft. Answering a question from a correspondent of the Beirut magazine AL-HAWADITH, one of them characterized, in particular, the project for the autonomous government of the Jordan West Bank and Gaza in the following terms: "To agree to this would mean recognizing the legitimacy of the Israeli occupation, and recognizing that the people of Palestine are incapable of, and not ready for, full independence...."

Neither the Egyptian nor the U.S. Government can fail to consider this position. True, the participants in the Camp David deal presently perceive some possibility of influencing this stance, while the impression produced on the Near East by the Iranian events is still fresh. The specter of revolution has begun to scare Saudi Arabia and the other Arab countries governed by monarchs. At the same time, the United States has promised "to use its strength to prop up" Saudi Arabia, and during Brown's visit the United States proposed forming a mobile group of U.S. paratroopers and Marines in case of a "request for help" from Saudi Arabia or other oil-producing countries. Nothing has been forgotten from the familiar arsenal of pressure, including the warning cry--Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Church declared: "Now is the time to tell Saudi Arabia that the 'special relationship' with the United States cannot be a one-way street...."

The participants in the new Camp David conference are counting on the fact that now, after appropriate conditioning, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and certain other Arab countries will be more tractable, and this will give Egypt the opportunity to conclude a separate peace with Israel without being expelled from the Arab family.

All these calculations are being built up without any interest in achieving genuine peace in the Near East and without respect for the legitimate rights of the Arab people, in particular the Arab people of Palestine. The participants in the talks proceed merely from their own egotistic aspirations and from a desire to preserve imperialism's positions in the regional.

This is not the first time that the United States, which is the pioneer of the Camp David deal, has tried to force through decisions advantageous only to imperialism and its local wards, in the guise of "normalizing the situation" and in the guise of "steps toward peace." Already on several occasions the consequence of these attempts has been an even greater exacerbation of tension in the region and new clashes and conflicts. Nor will the "second Camp David" lead to genuine and just peace even if it ends with the signing of a treaty between Egypt and Israel.

EGYPT PLAYS SECOND FIDDLE TO U.S., ISRAEL IN MIDEAST TALKS

LD282252 Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 1830 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[From "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] The Israeli Government rejected yesterday the invitation extended by President Carter to Prime Minister Begin for a tripartite summit conference at Camp David. This decision was officially justified by As-Sadat's rejection of this meeting and his intention to make Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil represent Egypt at it. At the same time Prime Minister Begin quickly agreed to go to Washington for personal talks with President Carter. The talks will be held tomorrow as was announced officially in Washington.

In the view of certain journalists those bilateral talks will be held for the clarification of attitudes and relations. Observers believe that Washington is dissatisfied with the Israeli Cabinet decision because the U.S. administration is in a hurry to clinch the separate Israeli-Egyptian treaty.

Cairo is also in a hurry, but the Egyptian leadership which placed itself fully at the service of U.S. imperialist policy in the Middle East is trying to win through bargaining certain material and political gains. Perhaps this is the reason for President as-Sadat's open announcement of his lack of desire to participate in the new Camp David summit.

As for Israel, it seems that there is nothing at present to make it want a quick conclusion to the deal with Egypt. One of the main objectives of the aggression has been achieved: Egypt has been taken out of the Arab active struggle front for the liberation of the occupied lands and recovery of the Palestinians' rights. Israel continues almost totally unhindered toward the achievement of the broad projects for the annexation of Palestinian and other Arab lands and receives increasing military and economic aid from the United States. What is more, Washington even proposes to give Israel those weapons designated for the shah's regime. As for oil, the United States gave Israel firm guarantees. Perhaps all these considerations are the reason for the Israeli Government's decision, on grounds of prestige regarding the issue of holding the new summit at Camp David. However, a harsh reprimand came from Washington, and the Israeli prime minister hurried to respond to them.

Now one can only speculate on what President Carter and Begin will be discussing. However, one can say with confidence that they will deal again with the new scenario for the play called "the signing of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty." Cairo will be allocated without doubt a secondary and perhaps even a third-rate role. Proof of this is the development of events since President as-Sadat's trip to occupied Jerusalem.

COMMENTATOR PRAISES PLO ROLE IN OBSTRUCTING CAMP DAVID DEAL

LD281551 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 17 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[V. Alanov article: "Strengthening Unity"]

[Text] The Palestinian people's courageous resistance is still one of the main obstacles to the implementation of the capitulationist deal concluded by Begin and Sadat at Camp David. The Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] has resolutely condemned the Camp David deal calling for the creation of a pro-Israel protectorate on the age-old Palestinian lands of the Jordan's West Bank and the Gaza Strip under the guise of "autonomy." The Palestinians' demand for the creation of a proper independent state again received support at the Damascus conference of progressive Arab states belonging to the National Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, and during the subsequent Baghdad summit conference, in which all Arab countries except Egypt took part.

In this regard the United States, Israel and the Egyptian leadership see the PLO as a stumbling block to their Near East strategy. The alliance of imperialism, Zionism and their allies in the Arab world sees its paramount task as weakening, and if possible eliminating, the PLO--which unifies all the Palestine confrontation movement's detachments.

To do this these forces will stop at nothing. Israel is stepping up its strikes in southern Lebanon. In mid-January Tel Aviv's troops carried out the most extensive military operation since last year's aggression against Palestinians and patriotic Lebanese forces in the region around An-Nabatiyah. Implementing last year's Knesset decision to unleash mass terror against the Palestinian leadership, Tel Aviv's intelligence services recently arranged the assassination in Beirut of Abu Hasan, a prominent figure in the Palestinian "Fatah" Organization. He was not the first Palestinian leader to be slain by Zionist agents.

Politically, great efforts are being made to justify Sadat's capitulationist policy and to neutralize the Baghdad conference's decisions on sanctions against the Egyptian regime if it signs a separate peace with Israel. To achieve this Sadat is using the tactic of "linking" an Egyptian-Israeli treaty with the introduction of the notorious "autonomy" on the West Bank and in Gaza, demagogically asserting that it is a prototype Palestinian state.

Reaction's anti-Palestinian plot is failing, however. Neither the United States, nor Israel, nor Sadat have managed to find Palestinians willing to become tools for implementing the Camp David deal. The 14th session of the Palestinian National Council--the PLO's supreme representative organ--recently held in Damascus strikingly confirmed the cohesion of all the Palestinian people's forces around the PLO.

Against the background of Sadat's anti-Soviet campaign and his appeals to the United States for support, the anti-imperialist spirit that characterized the session's work was of great importance. The National Council's decisions emphasized that the main task of the Arab countries' peoples is to fight to wreck the Camp David agreements and the plan to introduce so-called "administrative autonomy" in the territories under Israeli occupation. The Egyptian leadership's capitulationist policy was sharply criticized.

The U.S. actions aimed against the Palestinian people and the Arab national liberation movement is described in the political program as "open aggression."

The session reaffirmed the Palestinian leadership's principled position toward alliances in the international arena. "The socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union is a strategic ally in the Palestinian people's struggle," head of the PLO Political Department F. Qaddumi emphasized in a report delivered on behalf of the Executive Committee. [paragraph continues]

F. Qaddumi stated that the Palestinians are interested in strengthening the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries' positions, as they consider that this strengthens the PLO in the Arab and international arenas.

The PLO's attitude to Beijing's Near East policy recorded at the session is of fundamental importance. Here, as in other parts of the world, China has quickly switched from supporting leftwing extremism to supporting the forces of local reaction. When rightwing Christian armed formations made strikes against Palestinian leaders in Lebanon, Beijing spoke not a word in condemnation of these acts. But, counting on using it for its own anti-Soviet purposes, China fervently supported Sadat's capitulationist policy. Beijing's line in the Near East is practically indistinguishable from American imperialism's policy.

The Palestinians cannot, of course, disregard the Chinese leadership's betrayal as F. Qaddumi's report pointed out. The Palestinians have tried several times to make China see the danger of U.S. policy aimed against the Arab nation. However, these sincere efforts had no influence whatever on Beijing's policy, which is one of alliance with the United States and its allies against the Arab and Palestinian liberation movements.

The political results of the 14th session of the Palestinian National Council were received by Palestinians with satisfaction. The session's decisions will become an important landmark in the Palestinian people's struggle for their rights and against the alliance of imperialism, Zionism and reaction in the Near East.

MOSCOW PERSIAN ON EVANS-NOVAK CRITICISM OF USSR RADIO

TA282155 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 24 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Today's edition of PRAVDA printed an article which said that sometime ago when the Washington POST duo of Evans and Novak observed the silhouette of several new fighter aircraft in Cuban skies, they encouraged the U.S. Government to take severe measures. Then they attracted the attention of Deng Xiaoping, who decided that there was no one better than Evans and Novak to convince the naive people of the West of Peking's serious anti-Soviet schemes. Consequently, a new literary work seeped from their pen. Let us see what Evans and Novak have aimed to attack this time.

It appears that they do not approve of the contents of Soviet radio programs, especially Soviet radio programs to Iran. They are not pleased that these programs reveal the facts and testimonies of America's involvement in Iranian affairs, the indecent role of American advisors in their attempts to crush the democratic and revolutionary forces of Iran and the relationship between the CIA and SAVAK.

Evans and Novak do not dare doubt that SAVAK was established with the help of the CIA and functioned under its supervision. Evans and Novak claim that this disclosure agitates the people and incites them against the United States, and consequently is aimed against the United States, since they are false and fictitious. The Washington POST reporters are unaware that the facts and disclosures in this case are a result of actions by the United States itself.

But the real problem is not that these two American journalists from the Washington POST are shedding tears over events in Iran and over these charges because of their concern for the United States and the CIA, this vulnerable and injured organization. This time, as in other instances, the real situation does not concern them.

They create political equations suitable for any anti-Soviet ingredient. If the Soviet Union criticizes the imperialist policy of the United States, this is an insult to the dignity and prestige of the United States as a nation, and if the American CIA and U.S. representatives in foreign countries are criticized, this means that this criticism is aimed at the U.S. Government. Because the prestige of the U.S. Government was blemished, the head of government should feel personally humiliated. This calculation is simple and clear. In this manner, according to Evans and Novak, they want to end quickly the present policy of obedience and submission. For those who warn the President, the reiterated policy of the Soviet Union, which is based on the principle of neighborly relations and noninterference on the basis of equality and security, is a Western policy.

The provocateurs say the real greatness of the U.S. must be sought not through collaboration but through confrontation with socialist countries. It can be observed in the circle of American journalists that Evans and Novak have long been coining obscene anti-Soviet idioms. It is felt that this coining was completed after their recent trip to Peking; from where, in the near future, one can expect new distortions from Evans and Novak undoubtedly based on old style cliches.

NIOC OFFICIAL SAYS MULTINATIONAL OIL COMPANIES MUST QUIT IRAN

LD281516 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] London, February 28, TASS--Multinational oil monopolies which had engaged in the marketing of Iranian oil will have to quit Iran. This was stated at a press conference in Tehran by Hasan Nazih, managing director of the Iranian National Oil Company. He emphasized that the Western oil consortium which for the past 25 years has held the dominant position in the marketing of Iranian oil, will be excluded from the list of Iran's oil companies. The largest share of the consortium's stock--40 percent--is held by the British Petroleum Company. Among other stockholders are major U.S., French and Dutch oil monopolies.

DECISION OF KURDISH NATIONALITY, TUDEH PARTY STATEMENT ISSUED

LD282204 Moscow TASS in English 2032 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, February 28, TASS--The Iranian National Petroleum Company is getting ready to resume the export of oil.

Speaking at a press conference today, Hasan Nazih, executive director of the company, announced that the country now produced about 1.5 million barrels of oil a day and that there were no plans so far to increase the output, because this was not needed. The Iranian oil, he noted, will not be sold on previous terms, which were unprofitable for the country. He added also that Iran would prohibit other countries to reexport Iranian petroleum to Israel and the Republic of South Africa.

The question of the participation of workers and employees of national enterprises in the management of the latter is now being discussed widely in Iran. Addressing a press conference today, Amir Entezam, deputy prime minister of Iran, said that the new government recognized the right of the councils, set up by workers and employeees at enterprises and institutions, to submit for the government's approval their candidates to leading managerial posts at the corresponding enterprises.

The first steps are being taken to ensure equal rights to the national minorities living in Iran. According to the newspaper ETTELAAT, agreement has been reached, specifically, that key administrative and military posts in Kurdestan Province would be held by Kurds and that the Kurdic language would be taught in schools parallel with Persian.

The newspaper ETTELAAT published a statement issued by the People's Party of Iran (Tudeh). It stresses that freedom of action for the People's Party of Iran is an inalienable part of democracy in present-day Iran. Without the freedom of activity for this party, and without its effective participation in the country's political and social life, it is impossible to resolve the problems of Iranian society.

BELYAKOV CONFIRMS CPSU SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIAN CAUSE

LD281830 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The 25th CPSU Congress was held in Moscow 3 years ago. Our observer Vladimir Belyakov says that every congress of Soviet communists is considered an important event in the life of our country. As a general rule the basis of the internal and external policy of the Soviet Union for the next 5 years is laid down at the congresses. The 25th CPSU Congress was no exception. In internal policy, the congress drew up the task of continuing the tangible raising of the living standard of Soviet citizens; and in the external policy the task of the struggle for deepening detente.

The struggle against aggressive attempts of imperialism and for freedom and independence of peoples and for a just settlement to conflicts is one of the indivisible elements of Soviet detente policy. The congress drew up one of the most important tasks of the Soviet external policy, namely rendering assistance to the solution of the Middle East crisis in favor of the Arab peoples. In his speech delivered at the congress, Leonid Brezhnev said that the threat of war breaking out in the Middle East will remain so long as the Israeli armies remain in the occupied territories. This threat will remain so long as hundreds of thousands of Palestinians expelled from their territories continue to be deprived of their legitimate rights, live in humiliation, and the Palestinian Arab people remain deprived of the possibility of setting up their national state.

The 25th CPSU Congress affirmed the firm line of the Soviet Union toward supporting the Palestinian people and other Arab peoples. This line was embodied in all the steps taken by the Soviet Union in the sphere of its foreign policy. Our country condemned the visit of President Anwar as-Sadat to occupied Jerusalem and the separate collusion at Camp David. The Soviet Union welcomed the establishment of the National Front for Confrontation and Steadfastness and the resolutions of the Baghdad summit conference. This confirms once more that the Soviet Union is considered a guaranteed ally of the Arab peoples in their struggle against Zionist aggression. In the 3 years since the convening of the 25th CPSU Congress Soviet-Palestinian relations have tangibly deepened and reached the level of relations that exist between two states and the stage of coordination of actions with regard to all matters of interest to the two parties.

Leonid Brezhnev twice conferred with Yasir 'Arafat. The permanent office of the PLO was opened in Moscow. Soviet-Palestinian public relations were widened; the Soviet Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Palestinian Arab People was set up. The Palestinian leadership highly appreciates the existing relations with the Soviet Union. In a political report to the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization at the 14th session of the Palestine National Council last January, Faruq al-Qaddumi said: We are endeavoring to consolidate the positions of the Soviet Union because we believe that this strengthens the PLO in both the Arab and international fields. Faruq al-Qaddumi pointed out that the Soviet Union and other socialist states are considered strategic allies of the Palestinian people.

SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR CONFER

JN281548 Amman JNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 28 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Moscow, 28 February--The Soviet deputy foreign minister has discussed with Hani al-Khasawinah, Jordanian ambassador in Moscow, bilateral relations and Jordan's stand toward the Israeli occupation authorities' continued Judaization of occupied Arab territories. They also discussed Jordan's decision to submit this topic to the UN Security Council.

This meeting comes within the framework of contacts the Jordanian Government is holding with the international community and the United Nations to draw attention to the Israeli occupation authorities' continuing policy of making drastic changes in the occupied Arab territories by establishing large-scale settlements in these territories.

MOSCOW SUGGESTS U.S. FUELING FIRE OF WAR BETWEEN YAR, PDRY

LD282000 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Armed clashes between the two Yemens continue and they can only but affect the Arab world. Therefore, the YAR and the PDRY are being called on with growing urgency by various Arab capitals to halt the battle and settle their differences peacefully. Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid in a message called on the two countries' presidents to respect their mutual borders and sovereignty and to conduct a constructive objective dialog between them. The Algerian president considered the conflict as being one between two parts of one country. A number of other Arab countries also sent similar calls. The motives of the various Arab countries in this respect may be different, but they all understand that Arab disputes and conflicts harm the Arab struggle against the Israeli aggressors for the liberation of the occupied land, recovery of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people and consolidation of the national independence of Arab countries.

However, Arab freedom and independence are not guaranteed under the circumstances of the continued Israeli aggression and imperialist endeavor to realise their aggressive neocolonialist plans in the Arab world. Some Arab countries see a connection between the beginning of fighting between the two Yemens and the U.S. decision to send huge arms shipments to the YAR. The Jordanian newspaper ASH-SH'AB, for instance, thought that the United States wanted to force the YAR to defend its frontline interests--that is, U.S. interests--in the Arab Peninsula. In other words, the imperialists want to kindle the fire of conflict so that it turns to a new hotbed of tension in the Arab world.

SARKISOV ATTENDS KUWAIT EMBASSY RECEPTION

LD262112 Moscow TASS in English 1913 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 26, TASS--The ambassador of the state of Kuwait in the Soviet Union Adil Najm ad-Din Jarrah today held a reception on the occasion of his country's national day.

Present at the reception were Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Babken Sarkisov and other officials.

SECOND CONGRESS OF TURKISH LABOR PARTY HELD

Congress Opens

LD250140 Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Istanbul, February 24, TASS--The Second Congress of the Labour Party of Turkey opened here today. Its general chairman Behice Boran analyzed the international situation and the political situation in Turkey.

The socialist system, in which the Soviet Union holds by right the leading place, Behice Boran said, is the decisive factor in the international arena. She stressed the outstanding part played by the USSR and other socialist countries in the struggle for world peace and the relaxation of international tension and the great importance of the Soviet-American strategic arms limitation agreement and said that the Soviet Union is making every effort to achieve such an agreement.

B. Boran criticized the intention of the American administration to begin the manufacture of the neutron bomb, urged all the peace forces of the world to step up the struggle for outlawing this bomb and expressed concern over the striving of certain circles in the West to intensify the arms race.

B. Boran condemned China's armed aggression against Vietnam, an aggression which, she said, was committed not without the knowledge of the USA. She stressed that the present Chinese leadership, pursuing its hegemonistic aims, openly allies with reaction and such aggressive military blocs as NATO and CENTO.

Referring to Turkey's relations with the USA and NATO, the general chairman of the Labour Party of Turkey said that the strengthening of these ties is not in the interests of Turkey. She declared against the re-opening of American bases in Turkish territory.

Results of Congress

LD271642 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Istabbul, February 27, TASS--The Second Congress of the Turkish Labor Party has ended its work. It was keynoted by the slogan of the need to continue the struggle for stronger unity of the working class, all democratic forces of the country.

In resolutions of the congress it is noted that the Turkish working class in the struggle for democracy and social progress should be guided by ideas of scientific socialism and the principle of proletarian internationalism. Activities of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to promote the curbing of the arms race, stronger peace between peoples and stronger international security have been highly appreciated in the documents. Having noted the constant growth of the might and prestige of the world socialist system, the delegates of the forum of the Turkish working people emphasised that the socialist community played a very important role in solution of world problems.

The congress specified the main directions of the party's political course for the coming period, discussed questions of invigoration of organisational activity of the Turkish Labor Party in industrial areas and the countryside, introduced changes into the party rules, elected the steering bodies.

Behice Boran has been re-elected general chairman of the Turkish Labor Party. Mihat Sargin was re-elected general secretary.

ETHIOPIA'S MENGISTU COMMENTS ON SOCIALIST INTERNATIONALISM

LD011028 Moscow TASS in English 0915 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 1, TASS--The vast experience accumulated by countries of the socialist community in socialist construction and their achievements in different social and economic spheres give impetus and serve as an example for the Ethiopian revolution, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia Mengistu Haile Mariam said this here. He highly assessed the disinterested assistance of the Soviet Union, Cuba and other countries of the socialist community given to the Ethiopian people in accordance with the principles of proletarian internationalism.

International imperialism, said the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, continues its attempts to arrest the world revolutionary process. It has been using the reactionary Beijing leadership as its instrument of late. This is shown by the aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam unleashed by China. This outright intervention, said Mengistu Haile Mariam, causes concern not only in Southeast Asia but also among all truly progressive countries and peoples declaring for peace, justice, equality, democracy and freedom.

SWAPO LEADER'S REMARKS ON ARRIVAL IN ETHIOPIA REPORTED

LD011024 Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 1, TASS--The Namibian people are profoundly grateful to the countries of the socialist community and also to the progressive countries of Africa for the moral support and material aid in the struggle for casting off the fetters of colonialism, oppression and exploitation, said Sam Nujoma, the president of SWAPO, the South-West Africa People's Organization, who arrived here on Wednesday on a working visit.

The Namibian patriots, he pointed out, liberated extensive rural districts of the country and are now spreading their military operations to towns.

International imperialism, headed by the United States, Sam Nujoma emphasized, together with the Republic of South Africa, is making desperate efforts to set up a puppet regime in Namibia.

The SWAPO president expressed confidence that, notwithstanding reactionary intrigues, the Namibian people, backed by the progressive and democratic forces of the world, would gain genuine freedom and independence.

RHODESIA DISSOLVES PARLIAMENT, PREPARES FOR ELECTIONS

LD281740 Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Lusaka, February 28, TASS--According to reports from Salisbury, the Rhodesian Parliament has today been dissolved in connection with the "general elections," which the unlawful Smith regime intends to hold on April 20 this year.

The Rhodesian propaganda supported by the Western press is trying to picture things as if the era of the "white" Parliament is over and a just representation will be ensured in the new legislative body. But as a matter of fact, the Smith clique is planning to create such a parliament which, like the preceding one, will be on guard of white minority interests.

According to the constitution adopted by the racialists, representatives of the white community, making only three percent of the country's population, will have in the new legislative body a third of the seats. Moreover, the white MPs will have the right of veto, that will enable them to block any legislation unwelcome to them.

MORE ON OAU MINISTERIAL COUNCIL SESSION

ANC Leader Nzo Interviewed

LD260744 Moscow TASS in English 0642 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Nairobi, February 26, TASS--The elimination of the last seats of colonialism and racialism on the African soil is the main objective of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). This is seen from the speeches by the delegates at the current OAU Ministerial Council session in the Kenyan capital and the statements by the leaders of the national liberation movements of the south of Africa.

The current meeting of ministers of independent African countries will undoubtedly give a fresh impetus to the activity directed at the full liberation of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and the South African Republic, Alfred Nzo, secretary general of the African National Congress of South Africa, said in a TASS interview. We, he stressed, are determined to bring the struggle for freedom to a victorious end. Alfred Nzo strongly condemned the manoeuvres of Western powers striving to establish puppet regimes in Zimbabwe and Namibia and perpetuate imperialist rule there. The destiny of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia, he said, can be decided only by their legitimate representatives--the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and the South-West Africa People's Organisation.

Session Proceedings

LD281716 Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Nairobi, February 28, TASS--The OAU Ministerial Council has unanimously condemned at its plenary meeting today the act of aggression by the Rhodesian military against the People's Republic of Angola. The participants in the session addressed a message to President Agostinho Neto of the People's Republic of Angola expressing the solidarity of the whole of independent Africa with the people of Angola. They also demanded urgent convocation of the U.N. Security Council to discuss this matter. At the same time, the OAU Ministerial Council has reaffirmed its support for the struggle of African front line states against racialism.

The political committee of the session has approved today the report by the liberation committee summing up the results and outlining the program of further activity for giving assistance to the liberation struggle in the south of Africa.

The committee passed resolutions on Namibia and Zimbabwe. The resolution on Zimbabwe condemns the decisions of the U.S. Congress and the leadership of the British Conservative Party to send delegations to Salisbury for "observation" of the pseudo-elections scheduled to be held in April.

The special resolution on the use of foreign mercenaries stresses that they are a criminal tool of imperialism.

PONOMAREV PRAISES SOVIET-AFGHAN TREATY, SOLIDARITY

LD281416 Moscow TASS in English 1312 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--A recommendation to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to ratify the treaty of friendship, goodneighbourhood and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan of December 5, 1978, was unanimously adopted today by the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities, two equal chambers of the Soviet Parliament.

"The treaty has found an ardent and deep response among the public of the two countries. It was highly evaluated also by our friends in the world," the meeting was told by Chairman of the Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities, Alternate Member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev. He stressed that relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the USSR and Afghanistan have a long tradition and always accorded with their cardinal, vital interests.

As a result of the April 27, 1978, people's democratic revolution Afghanistan joined the ranks of progressive states resolutely struggling against imperialism, colonialism and racism, against forces of aggression, for real measures to limit the arms race, for disarmament, Boris Ponomarev said. He noted that the Soviet Union, loyal to its Leninist foreign policy, displays effective, fraternal solidarity with all states pursuing a similar course in the international arena. The Soviet-Afghan treaty is a concrete expression of this invariable line.

The treaty of December 5, 1978, not only confirms the line of past treaties (1921 and 1931) at strengthening and deepening Soviet-Afghan cooperation, but also provides for very substantial new directions of developing ties between the two countries, Ponomarev said. He stressed that the treaty was concluded in full accord with the aims and principles of the United Nations Charter and was not directed against any third country. The peace-loving constructive nature of the foreign policy course of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan manifested itself in the treaty with particular force.

The commissions unanimously supported the Soviet Government statement in connection with China's armed aggression against Vietnam and expressed solidarity with the fraternal Vietnamese people in its just struggle for the freedom and independence of its socialist motherland, and demanded an end to the Chinese aggression and a withdrawal of Chinese troops from Socialist Vietnam.

AFGHANISTAN'S TRANSFORMATIONS REASON FOR U.S. AID CUT

LD010049 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Andrey Ptashnikov]

[Text] According to reports from Washington, U.S. President Carter has decided to cut economic aid to Afghanistan from $15 million to $3 million. It was officially announced that the reason for the aid reduction was the assassination on 14 February of Dubs, the U.S. ambassador in Kabul. However, in the opinion of observers, the reason for this step should be sought elsewhere. It is known that the transformations being carried out in Afghanistan are not to Washington's taste.

INDIAN LEADERS CONDEMN PRC AGGRESSION AGAINST VIETNAM

LD281924 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, February 28, TASS--Going on Indian television, India's Prime Minister Morarji Desai condemned the Chinese invasion of Vietnam. "Beijing's actions in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are an aggression," he said. "We must call a spade a spade."

China's attack on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was also condemned recently by India's Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee. Nobody doubts that China committed an aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, he said in Parliament. The aggressor must not be permitted to enjoy the spoils of its aggression. All countries must bring pressure to bear on China to force it to withdraw its troops from Vietnam, the minister stressed.

INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER STRESSES VIGILANCE AGAINST ATTACK

LD271404 Moscow TASS in English 1229 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, February 27, TASS--India has never intended and does not intend to wage any way beyond its boundaries, said Jagjivan Ram. The deputy premier and minister of defence of India was addressing servicemen. Past experience, however, makes us keep our forces in complete combat readiness in case any of India's neighbours once again, in an attack of madness, ventures any gamble. And though today no one threatens our frontiers, constant vigilance is imperative to repel any threat which could arise if any neighbouring country, in an attempt to divert attention from its internal difficulties, would commit aggression against us. That is why the Indian Armed Forces are in complete combat readiness notwithstanding the efforts to further normalize relations with China and Pakistan, Ram said.

USSR TO LAUNCH INDIAN EARTH RESOURCES SATELLITE IN 1979

LD251110 Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 25 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, February 25, TASS--A second Indian earth satellite is to be launched this year by means of a Soviet rocket, Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai told the upper chamber of India's Parliament.

India has scored major successes in space exploration due to cooperation with the Soviet Union, a TASS correspondent was told by Professor Yu. R. Rao, director of the Space Center in Pinya (Karnatak State). The new space experiment will serve towards a further strengthening of ties between the USSR and India.

The new satellite is fitted out with considerably more sophisticated equipment than its predecessor "Ariyabatha." Installed in it is a system of TV cameras and microwave radiometers. Scientists will receive data that will help determine the reserves of minerals in India's territory as well as data about water and forest resources, those of the continental shelf and the state of snow cover in the Himalayas. All this is of great practical significance for national economy.

CONTINUED REPORTAGE ON PRC AGGRESSION AGAINST VIETNAM

TASS 28 Feb Roundup

LD281346 Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 28, TASS--The Chinese aggressors are trying to intensify offensive actions in a number of directions in Vietnam's northern provinces, to broaden the proportions of their expansion. With this aim they are moving to the battle areas fresh military formations, trying to keep the occupied Vietnamese lands and to annex them.

The VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) reports that in all areas of combat actions armed forces of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, beating back the fierce attacks of the aggressor, are inflicting upon it heavy losses in manpower and materiel. In Cam Duong area Vietnamese servicemen in three days of fighting destroyed more than 2,200 Chinese troops. A number of tanks and army vehicles were put out of action.

The Chinese aggressors are sustaining big losses also in other areas of military actions. The local armed forces of the Loc Binh district of the Lang Son Province attacked the Chinese from the rear and destroyed two enemy companies. Servicemen and people's guardsmen of the Fong Tho district of the Lai Chau Province put out of action 250 Chinese troops.

Tangible blows on the enemy are inflicted by Vietnamese Armed Forces in the Cao Bang and Hoang Lien Son Provinces, where aggressors tried to unleash extensive operations in seizing Vietnamese territory, using infantry, tanks and artillery.

The proportions, the character and the aims of the Chinese venture in Vietnam are a threat to the whole of Southeast Asia. It is not accidental that the situation deteriorated on the Laotian-Chinese frontier where China is concentrating its troops. Observers do not rule out a possibility of intrusion of Chinese aggressive forces also into the Laotian People's Democratic Republic. The Chinese agents, who invigorated their activities in Laos, are making desperate efforts to cause disorder in that country.

The Chinese aggressors continue their outrages on the Vietnamese soil. Infuriated by military setbacks the invaders are venting their anger on the civilian population.

The VNA news agency reports that the Chinese military subjected to barbarous bombardment the territory of the Hong Son community near the town of Lao Cai. The unbridled militarists pursued the only aim to cause the greatest possible economic damage upon the area. The bombardment destroyed a brick factory, a third of dwelling houses of the local agricultural cooperative. A secondary school was burned down and a kindergarten building was razed to the ground. Mortar fire destroyed irrigation systems on rice fields, where the harvesting campaign was nearing. The fruits of many month-long peasant labour have been ruined. Scores of people, who hid in their homes, were killed in the bombardment. These were primarily old men, women and children.

SRV Beijing Charge on Aggression

LD281348 Moscow TASS in English 1300 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Beijing, February 28, TASS--In an interview to foreign journalists, Charge d'Affaires ad Interim of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in China Tran Trung has said that China's invasion of Vietnam "is a grave threat to security and peace in that area and might lead to unpredictable consequences."

The so-called "limited war," he stressed, might in the future lead to a broader war. The Chinese aggressors are planning a large-scale offensive after reinforcement of their troops, already now amounting to 25 divisions.

Tran Trung said that in this struggle the Soviet Union was giving Vietnam support and assistance and both countries were honouring the provisions of the bilateral treaty. He said that the duration of the war would fully depend on the Chinese leadership. We shall be fighting until our territory is freed from all the invaders, Tran Trung said.

Correspondent's Lang Son Report

LD281139 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 79 p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Skvortsov dispatch under the general headline: "Mounting Rebuff to the Enemy"]

[Text] Lang Son, 22 February--From Hanoi to Lang Son city is about 130 km on National Highway 1, which leads to the northeast and the Chinese border. This road, old, narrow and lined by aging eucalyptus trees, stretches between half-flooded fields. Near the little town of Dong Mo, still 30 km from Lang Son, the rutted and buckled road starts to snake up into the hills.

Literally, Dong Mo means "the valley of mines." The basalt and stone rocks into which the town is carved is in places absolutely dotted with entrances to abandoned, primitive workings. The little town, with a population of around 2,000, a market, a dozen bicycle repair shops, and nearby a quarry and an elevator, could once be crossed in a car in 3-4 minutes, whereas now it takes almost an hour. The narrow main street is filled with the roar of the motors of heavy tractors pulling guns, trucks filled with soldiers, buses carrying evacuees and water tankers. Columns of people, both soldiers and civilians, are on the move.

War is war. The Vietnamese know well how difficult it is for the people. And they have set about this hard and burdensome task with all their inherent thoroughness and stubbornness.

Company after company of Lang Son Province regional forces units being withdrawn from forward positions for a rest period march by. The soldiers in their sweat-soaked, muddied shirts march wearily. Some of the soldiers are helping tardy evacuees--women in the short breeches and black scarves of Nung nationality or the black and white striped headbands of the Thai, carrying in baskets on yokes some simple belongings or else their children. Fresh battalions are marching north to meet them. You cannot help noting the mighty combat equipment which accompanies them.

But here we are at the administrative center of Lang Son Province--a city of the same name where just 5 days ago about 50,000 people lived. Now they have been evacuated under an order adopted by the People's Committee on the evening of 17 February when five columns of Chinese tanks, infantry and even cavalry were attacking the province's borders. However, here and there we notice people in civilian clothing sitting idly on doorsteps or wandering aimlessly between fences. (Dong Doc Dien), the representative of the city People's Committee who accompanied us from the checkpoint, explains:

"The 3,000 Huaqiao-ethnic Chinese--living in the city did not obey the evacuation order. I do not think that they all had something bad in mind. But some of them are stirring up trouble, threatening, blackmailing and demanding to 'wait for their own people.' We arrested several saboteurs and subversives with hidden Chinese flags on 17 and 18 February when, according to the enemy plans, Lang Son was to have fallen...."

Yes, the situation in the province is complex. In the Vietnam Communist Party city committee building, an old residence which has been empty for the last few days, we met with Senior Col (Le Shon), commander of the province's regional forces. The senior colonel--a large man with an expressive face who was wearing a field uniform under which the collar of a black sweater could be seen (it is cold at night in the Lang Son mountains)--briefed us on the extremely complex situation, pausing while a nearby battery somewhere beyond the stadium fired another salvo: The enemy has been stopped, is sustaining losses and has been forced to regroup. But hard and bloody fighting continues.

I happened to be near the village of Dong Dang, 12 km north of Lang Son, right by the border, when several dozen tanks and up to a battalion of enemy infantry made a surprise rush on the village. Under artillery and mortar fire the small detachments of soldiers from the regional forces, the People's Militia, the People's Police and border guards accepted the unequal battle, fought heroically and retreated only when ordered to.

Sometimes the orders came only by messenger because of the disruption of communications, and arrived late. And the heroes continued to fight. That is what happened, for instance, on Height 811 which was defended by 10 lads--the "10 men of steel" as they are now called in the province. With one recoilless gun and 300 shells the soldiers knocked out several enemy tanks, put several dozen enemy soldiers out of action and requested support only when they had used up their combat supplies.

At positions near Dong Dang I was introduced to two soldiers of the 2d Platoon, 3d Company of the 2d Battalion of the Lang Son Regional Forces--(Chan Iich Shon), 26 years of age, and (Nguyen An Tuan), 22. They brought and handed in at the subunit observation post two submachine guns, a grenade launcher and a pistol which they captured as trophies during a hand-to-hand skirmish near the hamlet of (Bakyuit) in Hoa Dong commune. The soldiers told of stubborn fighting in which more than 60 enemy soldiers were put out of action. People are fighting with a determination to defend the province and to regain all the territory seized by the enemy, to the last inch.

"Friendship Gate--"Huu Nghi"--is what the representatives of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples called the main checkpoint on the common border where the railroads and highways connecting Hanoi and Beijing meet. Now that the Beijing leaders, betraying that friendship, have started an open aggressive war in order to implement their expansionist plans, Lang Son's defenders told me, it would be advisable for them to look at some other old gates installed at the city entrance back in feudal times. On the side facing China some Chinese Mandarin carved in characters: "Of 10 men with weapons passing through here, only 1 will return."

Vietnam is fighting boldly, skillfully and steadfastly. It is backed by all the socialist countries and the entire progressive and peace-loving world. Socialist Vietnam will not give way; it will stand its ground. For the Vietnamese the words of President Ho Chi Minh are a motto for all their life: "There is nothing more precious than independence and freedom."

Leontyev Reviews Chinese Attack

LD011111 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[Col A. Leontyev "Military-Political Review": "Bloody Adventure and the Lessons of History"]

[Text] History knows of many rulers who dreamed of world domination. They had common features--hatred of peace, disregard for the destiny of hundreds of millions of people, maniacal bloodthirstiness, hypocrisy and arrogance. For instance, one such man was Mao Zedong, who preached the inevitability and even necessity of a new world war and calculated with the calm of a cannibal: "If half of mankind is destroyed, half will remain...." Mao's successors have remained loyal to his barbaric postulates. They regard war as "a normal phenomenon" and "a continuation of peace" and do everything to push mankind into the abyss of war. For the sake of what? For the sake of insuring that the whole world is decorated with dragon flags and populated almost exclusively by Chinese.

Lavish with their smiles and unstinting in their bows to Western politicians and generals, Chinese envoys are stealing up on NATO arsenals to obtain modern weapons for their adventures. China is arming feverishly and urging its imperialist friends to arm themselves. It is trying by every means to wreck detente, stoking hostility among peoples, conducting malicious anti-Soviet propaganda and making wild territorial claims against neighboring countries.

Beijing's great-power, hegemonist, aggressive policy creates a serious threat to peace and the security of all countries and peoples. Millions of people had clear confirmation of this when they heard the news, which circulated with lightning speed, of China's perfidious attack on its neighbor--the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV].

In Vietnam, whose people fought for 30 years for their freedom, the many wounds of the years of wartime troubles are not yet healed. The graves of the dead are still fresh, the tears of millions of widows and orphans are not dry. And now war again, this time with their former "elder brother" who has perfidiously stabbed the country in the back.

For the second week guns have been roaring, tank tracks clanking and blood flowing in Vietnam's long-suffering land. The Chinese barbarians are committing atrocities--burning villages, shooting peaceful inhabitants and beating them with rifle butts, disembowelling women and drowning children in swamps. Special detachments of marauders are taking stolen rice and peasants' personal possessions and agricultural machinery to China and are driving out livestock.

"Learn from the United States," posters in Beijing urge the Chinese. As we can see, the Maoists have already learned something. But the main aspect--the results of the recent U.S. war in Vietnam--have for some reason been overlooked by the present aggressors. It would be worth their while to recall them. The Chinese military chiefs should spend some money on movies showing how the Pentagon's enormous war machine bogged down in Vietnam, how its army was worn down and drained, how it retreated, throwing down its weapons--in brief, how the U.S. Vietnam adventure came to an ignominious end.

Through the mouth of Deng Xiaoping, Beijing has stated that it wants to "instruct" Vietnam, to teach it some sort of "lessons." Washington once stated the same thing. But the war ended with a harsh lesson for the Americans themselves. There are no grounds for believing that their successors will be any more successful.

The lessons of history, SRV Premier Pham Van Dong stated recently, show that any aggression against Vietnam from the north has ended in failure. The Vietnamese people are ready for war. And this time too defeat awaits the Chinese. If anyone is going to teach anyone a lesson, he said, then it will be Vietnam which will teach China a lesson. We are calm and self-confident. Our stand is firm.

In the fierce fighting unleashed in the north of the country the Vietnamese are dealing a fitting rebuff to the invaders. The aggressor is being subjected to increasing counterstrikes by the Vietnamese troops.

The Chinese adventure in Vietnam has revealed Beijing's aggressive essence, political unprincipledness, duplicity, lies and hypocrisy. It transpires that international law, the UN Charter and the norms of morality were not written for Beijing. Its monstrous action flagrantly violates international law and attests to how irresponsibly Beijing treats the destiny of peace and to the criminal ease with which the Chinese leadership brings weapons into play. It is an open and shameless challenge to all mankind.

The Chinese dragon considers it has the right to attack any country which dares to pursue an independent foreign policy and defend its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. Yesterday it was India, today it is Vietnam. Who will it be tomorrow? Where will Beijing's new ambitions appear? Who else will the Beijing adventurists want to "teach a lesson," taking on the role of world gendarme determining states' rights and borders? These questions are particularly worrisome at present for the public and governments of the Southeast Asian countries, which Beijing has long regarded as territory allegedly "lost" by China.

The message from member of Parliament (Dzh, Ch. Bkhattachariya) to Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai notes that China's aggression threatens peace throughout the world, since it affects the vital interests of all Southeast Asian countries."

"It is hard to understand what China can gain from attacking Vietnam," the Indian EXPRESS says in perplexity. "The Chinese adventure in Vietnam," the New York TIMES admits, "will bring harm rather than any benefit to China." In an article in LE MATIN (F. Deviller), a French specialist on Southeast Asian problems, concludes that "in initiating armed action against the SRV China has in all likelihood committed a very major blunder." This aggression, in the author's opinion, "will inevitably harm China's reputation in the United Nations and among the developing countries, will cool the ardor of U.S. businessmen and strategists and thus cancel out the results of Deng Xiaoping's U.S. visit."

Some gentlemen in the West who previously agreed to provide China with sophisticated weapons and cited as justification China's "love of peace" and its exclusively "defensive" goals have found themselves in a particularly difficult position. The dragon shows a strange "love of peace" by breaking free of its chains and now preying on Vietnamese land! Many people have been obliged to think about this. It is evidently only the British arms dealers who are not embarrassed by it. Greed has eclipsed their common sense. At precisely this time British Industry Secretary E. Varley has gone to Beijing for talks on the sale of guns, tanks and aircraft, primarily Harrier VTOL fighters, to China. According to him the PRC's attack on Vietnam "has nothing to do with the forthcoming talks in Beijing and cannot influence the British side's position." [paragraph continues]

What does he care who will be shot by the Harriers given to China. But, as Hitler's attack on Britain showed, aircraft, tanks and guns can fire in more than one direction. The Chinese proverb says that even a pumpkin can roll off the roof of a house in either direction. London is forgetting the lessons of history, but history exacts cruel revenge from those who scorn its lessons.

In seeking to mislead the public and justify its bloody adventure Beijing is striving to present Vietnam as the "aggressor" and its own actions as "enforced" and "defensive." It asserts that it is conducting a merely "local operation," some sort of "counter-attack" of limited duration and scope. In reality the blood-crazed Chinese dragon is constantly expanding its aggression. The Chinese command is constantly sending reinforcements for its units. The fighting on the Vietnamese-Chinese border is becoming increasingly fierce.

Its overt and secret patrons are rushing to Beijing's aid. They are trying by every means to whitewash the aggressor and underplay the threat to peace presented by the Chinese adventure. Thus Washington is alleging that the Chinese are aiming only at "rectifying" in their favor "certain disputed sectors of their border with Vietnam." But this would in fact mean seizing foreign land. Attempts are being made to link China's invasion of Vietnam with internal events in Kampuchea. But attempts of this sort are nothing but an attempt to justify Chinese aggression. Washington is thereby encouraging China to step up further its hostile actions against the SRV.

Beijing's shameful adventure has aroused the indignation of all honest people. Waves of anger are creating a storm over the planet. In vain the culprits in this act of piracy count on taking shelter behind the "wall of China." No wall will save them from disgrace and blame for the consequences of aggression.

CAMBODIA'S ROS SAMAY INTERVIEWED BEFORE LEAVING USSR

LD281453 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[TASS Report: "Visit Completed"]

[Text] The Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS] delegation headed by Ros Samay, general secretary of the KNUFNS Central Committee, which was in our country on a friendly visit, departed from the Soviet Union for Budapest on 24 February.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by: R.A. Ulyan vskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; N.P. Firyubin, USSR deputy foreign minister; O.S. Kharkhardin, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace; A.M. Ledovskiy, deputy chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries Presidium; and other officials and representatives of the public.

Among those seeing off the delegation were Nguyen Huu Khieu, SRV ambassador to the USSR; P. Boupha, Lao People's Democratic Republic charge d'affairs ad interim in the USSR; and A. Kohanka, counsellor at the Hungarian Embassy in the USSR.

"The great honor has fallen to me to head the first Kampuchean delegation to come to the great Lenin's homeland since the historic victory and the proclamation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea," Ros Samay said in an interview with a TASS correspondent before takeoff. The meetings and talks with Soviet people gave us the opportunity to be convinced once again of their loyalty to their international duty, to feel how strong is the Soviet people's combat solidarity with the Kampuchean people's just cause and how sincere are the sympathy and friendship between our peoples. No words can express the profound gratitude and thanks to the CPSU, the Soviet Government and all the Soviet people for their comprehensive support to the Kampuchean people at all stages of their difficult struggle for their homeland's bright future.

"The ideas of Great October had a powerful influence on the development of the revolutionary process in our country," the delegation head noted. "Marxist-Leninist teaching inspires us even now, during the time of peaceful building.

"The Kampuchean people are now experiencing great difficulties as they try to heal the wounds inflicted by the overthrown Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime. It is not easy to resolve at once the problems of education and of organizing industry and agriculture, but we are fully determined to make our country a wonderful place. A broad program has been outlined which meets the people's aspirations. In implementing it we will rely on the experience of the USSR and other socialist countries. I am sure that Kampuchean envoys will come to the Soviet Union many more times, to become more closely acquainted with the achievements and successes of the world's first socialist state. This particular visit has been extremely useful from the viewpoint of the USSR's experience in party building, which is very important for our young republic.

"While in the USSR we learned with anger and indignation about the Beijing hegemonists' attack on Socialist Vietnam. On behalf of the Kampuchean people," the KNUFNS Central Committee general secretary said, "I declare that, with all the world's progressive forces, we will strengthen combat the solidarity with the fraternal Vietnamese people, which was forged in the 30-year joint struggle for freedom and independence. Beijing's criminal aggression is doomed, since the invincible strength of the socialist community's fraternity is on Vietnam's side. The Soviet Union is a reliable bulwark of peace and security in Southeast Asia and throughout the world; of this we have been convinced once again."

JAPANESE FAILURE TO CONDEMN PRC ATTACK ON VIETNAM SCORED

LD281331 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Feb 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[M. Demchenko article under rubric "On Urgent Topics": "Indulging the Aggressor"]

[Text] The Chinese aggressors' perfidious attack on Vietnam has shown, like litmus paper, the true positions of other countries' governments and political parties. Peace-loving forces throughout the world angrily condemn the Beijing aggressors and resolutely demand an end to China's intervention and the immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnamese territory. They point out that China's aggressive actions are counter to UN principles, are in gross violation of international law, and expose to the whole world the true essence of Beijing's hegemonist policy in Southeast Asia.

Any connivance at such a policy, as the Soviet Government statement points out, is connivance at violence and diktat and connivance at the Chinese leadership's attempts to plunge the world into war.

This policy of the Chinese leadership is now being indulged quite actively by Tokyo, which is endeavoring to portray China's invasion of Vietnam as "the result of the events that have occurred in Kampuchea." A number of recent statements by Japanese Government spokesmen attest that the government is trying to link the question of China's attack on Vietnam with internal events in Kampuchea. And this virtually represents a desire to justify the Chinese aggressors.

What is striking here is the Japanese Government's inconsistence on this issue. Thus, for example, during a Diet speech after China unleashed its aggression Foreign Minister S. Sonoda said that Japan had "protested to China" over its invasion of Vietnam. However, during a press conference the very next day he hastened to "correct" himself. "I should say," Sonoda declared, "that Japan deplores it." He essentially refused to condemn China's aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

This "correction," by all accounts, occurred under the influence of those forces being led by Beijing. Japan's suspension of economic cooperation with Vietnam serves as a graphic example of such influence on Tokyo's foreign policy course. Justifying this Japanese Government decision, Sonoda alleged that Vietnam is "interfering" in Kampuchea's affairs and "threatening the cause of peace in Asia" and consequently must be "punished" by ending economic aid to it. As we see, the "arguments" and terminology here are Beijing's. Deng Xiaoping expatiated on "punishing Vietnam" during his recent U.S. tour and during his stay in Tokyo on the way back.

Does the Japanese Government intend to end economic cooperation with China, which has unleashed aggression against Vietnam? This question was put to Japanese Prime Minister M. Ohira at a 22 February Tokyo press conference. The Japanese premier evaded answering it.

The Japanese Government speaks quite frequently on Japan's pursuit of an autonomous, independent foreign policy course and its maintenance of normal relations with all countries.

How do such statements look now, in the light of the Japanese Government's present assessment of China s attack on Vietnam? Was it accidental that the unleashing of Chinese aggression coincided with the activation of a noisy anti-Soviet campaign in Japan over the so-called "northern territories problem"? This campaign fueled by Beijing propaganda in every possible way, has even reached the Japanese Diet. Japanese Government spokesmen have recently been making unsubstantiated and unlawful territorial claims on the USSR both in the Diet and at press conferences and alleging that the Soviet Union is threatening Japan.

Such anti-Soviet campaigns and the intensification of Japanese militarism to the accompaniment of the imaginary "Soviet threat" were stepped up particularly noticeably after last year's signing of the so-called Japanese-Chinese "peace and friendship treaty," which is spearheaded against the USSR and the other socialist countries. The warnings of those who said that Beijing is using this treaty for its own purposes, to drag Japan into a multilateral anti-Soviet alliance embracing China, the United States and NATO, have been justified.

Is such a development of events in Southeast Asia in the interests of the Japanese people? Is indulging the Chinese hegemonists in Japan's interests? Japanese progressive forces and, above all, the Communist Party reply to these questions in the negative. They condemn China's aggression against the Vietnamese people and demand the immediate withdrawal of all Chinese troops from Vietnam.

JAPAN MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF BIKINI EXPLOSION

LD011012 Moscow TASS in English 0906 GMT 1 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 1, TASS--The Japanese democratic public today marked the Bikini day--the 25th anniversary of the American hydrogen bomb explosion on the Bikini atoll, in the Pacific Ocean, by meetings and demonstrations, demanding prohibition of nuclear weapons. Radioactive ash, formed after the explosion, fell on Japanese fishermen from the Fukuryu Maru schooner. Several members of the team died.

The highlight of the Bikini day became a conference of peace champions in Sizuoka. Its 1,400 participants denounced Washington's course of building up nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction. They demanded that the Japanese Government should strictly observe three non-nuclear principles--not to produce, not to bring in and not to deploy nuclear weapons.

CPSU OFFICIAL IN MEXICO WARNS OF POSSIBLE INTERVENTION IN SRV

PA010528 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 1 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Nikolay Inozemtsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, said at his arrival in the capital that the USSR is going to intervene militarily [La Union Sovietica va a intervenir militarmente] in Vietnam if the People's Republic of China continues its invasion.

This is a very delicate statement. The Soviet leader said that Moscow will support Vietnam to the last in compliance with an agreement signed between the two countries to reject the hegemonic attitude of China. Inozemtsev, who also is deputy to the Supreme Soviet, trusted in a prompt withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnam and discarded the possibility that the clash would escalate into World War III. However, he said that whenever Vietnam wants, the USSR will intervene with arms [intervendra con las armas] in the conflict.

He also said that it is obvious that the People's Republic of China is encouraged by hegemonic interests in the United States. Finally he said, we will not change our position to help Vietnam, although we wish that the conflict will be solved by peaceful means. As I said before, the Soviet official arrived this evening in Mexico City at the head of the Soviet delegation participating in the 50th anniversary ceremony of the Independent Revolutionary Party.

OAS SAYS U.S. PROTECTION BILL WILL INTENSIFY CONTRADICTIONS

LD281420 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Washington, February 28, TASS--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports: A gross disregard for the legitimate interests of small countries. Attempts at an economic diktat. This is how Latin American countries appraised a series of discriminatory measures in trade, which are being prepared by U.S. Congress.

On an initiative of a large group of member countries, the Organisation of American States (OAS) held a special conference here in connection with the consideration of a bill which envisages the adoption of protectionist measures in the field of sugar production. The consideration of the bill is being started in Washington. U.S. sugar producers have long been advocating this, for such measures, apart from securing additional profits, will help them do away with their competitors. The main blow is directed against Latin American and Caribbean states which traditionally are the leading suppliers of sugar to the U.S. market. In terms of money the volume of their export is estimated at 1.3 billion dollars a year. Upon manipulating 'appropriate people', the sugar producers' lobbyists managed to win the support of the U.S. administration and influential committees of Congress for the bill.

Speaking at the OAS conference on behalf of the Latin American suppliers of sugar, J.R. Echeverria, representative of Costa Rica, warned Washington that the protectionist step will lead to a further intensification of contradictions between the USA and Latin America. The unfair trade policy, he pointed out, will make still more difficult the headway of the developing countries of the Western Hemisphere along the lines of socio-economic progress. The delegate of Guatemala described the bill as discriminatory in the highest degree.

The participants in the conference applied to the White House in a demand that the interests of "junior partners" be taken into consideration. Observers, however, sceptically view the effectiveness of such an address. It is recalled here that in the past the USA had more than once ostentatiously ignored such calls. In 1978 alone, despite the urgent requests by Latin American countries, Washington introduced tough restrictions on a whole number of goods exported to the U.S. market.

GROMYKO ELECTION SPEECH VIEWS USSR FOREIGN POLICY

ID262240 Minsk Domestic Service in Russian 1155 GMT 26 Feb 79 ID

[Text of foreign policy portion of Gromyko address to Minsk constituents 26 Feb]

[Excerpt] Minsk--Addressing a meeting with electors here today candidate deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet Andrey Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister, said among other things:

Favorable external conditions are necessary for the implementation of the Soviet people's grandiose plans. This was mentioned here quite justifiably. The Leninist foreign policy of the party and the Soviet state serves the cause of ensuring such conditions. The principles and the main directions of this policy are enshrined in the new Constitution of the USSR. Thus the struggle of our country for peace, for strengthening the security of peoples, and for widescale international cooperation has assumed the force of state law in the present-day international situation.

At the present stage, our foreign policy activity unswervingly proceeds toward implementation of the peace program put forward by the 25th party congress.

In summing up the results of the struggle to implement this program there is every ground to say that it is in a large measure due to this activity that the USSR's international position is firm.

Those whom it concerns both in the West and the Far East must know that the Soviet Union, its friends and allies are quite able to stand up for themselves. But our country does not threaten anyone, it wants only peace on earth. This has been inscribed in golden letters in the banner of our foreign policy.

Soviet foreign policy has become a powerful factor for the development of relations among states. No major international issue can, as a matter of fact, be decided now without the USSR's participation.

The peoples struggling for peace always have in the Soviet Union their ally and friend.

Our international policy, A.A. Gromyko said, has been and will remain of a class internationalist essence. It expresses the interests of all the world's working people and therefore enjoys the highest prestige.

No other country has put forward so many constructive proposals as the Soviet Union directed at strengthening peace, ending the arms race, at disarmament and peaceful cooperation among nations.

The main initiatives directed at preventing war and strengthening peace have come and continue to come from our country, from the party of Lenin, from the heart of our state--the Kremlin.

And if the political climate in the European Continent has noticeably improved, this is in no small measure a result of the successful Conference on European Security and Cooperation, which was initiated by the Soviet Union together with the other fraternal socialist countries.

The impact of Soviet foreign policy on international affairs is growing from day to day, and we are acting not alone, but jointly with the fraternal socialist countries. A further strengthening of unity and cohesion of the socialist community countries has been and remains the central trend of our foreign policy.

The Warsaw Pact Organization--a reliable shield of the socialist gains--serves well the cause of peace and socialism. It is precisely there that the foreign policy actions of the socialist countries directed at international detente, strengthening security and developing cooperation are coordinated.

The recent Moscow meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states has made a profound analysis of the world situation and has clearly pointed out what steps must be taken in the present conditions to strengthen detente.

The weightiness of the peace initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union together with the other fraternal countries is substantiated also by the fact that the socialist community now has a powerful industrial potential. The fraternal countries united in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance have created the world's most dynamic, rapidly growing economic organization.

Socialism has nowadays a tremendous attractive force. Peoples ever more link their hopes for the future with the socialist system. This is seen from numerous facts. Socialism has scored fresh important successes over the past years, United Socialist Vietnam has become an important outpost of socialism in Southeast Asia.

A new aggression has now been unleashed against Vietnam. This crime has been perpetrated by the leaders of China obsessed with the ideas of hegemonism and expansionism. But they must know that Beijing's aggression is invariably doomed to failure.

It must also be added that the Beijing leaders are also responsible for the aggression unleashed against the heroic Vietnamese people to the Chinese people, whom they are crudely deceiving in an attempt to cover up their criminal aims.

The Soviet Union resolutely demands that the Beijing leadership end before it is too late, and I repeat, before it is too late, the aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and immediately withdraw Chinese troops from its territory.

This line, which is firmly followed by the USSR, its friends and allies has been most clearly set forth in the recent statement by the Soviet Government.

The People's Democratic Republic of Laos has now firmly joined the fraternal family of socialist countries. Another source of gratification is the victory scored by the Kampuchean people, who overthrew the fanatically cruel, butcher regime of Maoist placemen.

An important trend of our foreign policy is the course towards strengthening alliance's with the countries of the East, which was started by V.I. Lenin. Our people have never been indifferent to the destinies of the oppressed and enslaved. They have always and continue to come out on the side of those who uphold freedom and independence.

In its relations with the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, the Soviet Union has never sought unilateral advantages or pursued any narrow or selfish aims. This is alien to Soviet foreign policy.

But at the same time we do not conceal from anyone that in the developing countries, like everywhere, we side with the forces of progress, democracy, and national independence. Soviet people ardently welcome the revolutionary-democratic transformations being carried out in Angola and Ethiopia, Afghanistan and South Yemen, as well as other countries resolutely rejecting imperialism, colonialism and racism.

Our relations and cooperation with India continue to develop on the basis of the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation. The period since the treaty was concluded has convincingly shown all of its significance.

Our relations are developing well with most countries of the Middle East, many countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America on the basis of common adherence to the cause of strengthening peace, ensuring the peoples' right to freedom, independence and social progress.

The Soviet Union will continue doing everything it must to develop and strengthen friendship and cooperation with all the newly independent states, which, for their part, are really striving toward this end.

The Soviet Union highly assesses the role of the nonalinement movement in the struggle for peace, relaxation of international tension, liquidation of colonialism and all forms of imperialist and racial oppression, against the plunder of young developing states by foreign monopolies.

As for the capitalist states, we are exerting persistent efforts to channel relations with them increasingly into the path of peaceful coexistence. This should mean development of cooperation on a mutually-advantageous basis, due account of the interests of each other's security and growth of mutual confidence.

We denounce the striving of some of our partners in negotiations to obtain unilateral advantages for themselves. We stand for honest negotiations, for equality and equal security for both sides.

Our relations with the United States are known to be of particular significance. This is understandable to everybody.

On the one hand, preserved in them as a whole is the substantial positive headstart created previously by the joint efforts of both states. We all know too well what efforts were needed to achieve this. This testifies to the possibilities of developing our relations constructively in the future also. This is realized by reasonable persons in the West, too.

On the other hand, one cannot help seeing that forces are very active in the United States--and not only in that country, for that matter--that cannot put up with detente, forces that would like to return our countries to the "cold war." The Chinese leaders are striving with particular eagerness to set the Soviet Union and the United States at loggerheads. The development of Soviet-American relations is being obstructed by their influence, and also by the influence of definite internal forces in the United States. The attitude toward this serious question changes in Washington as quickly as the weather in the North Atlantic. It is said that it changes there very quickly.

The political climate in relations between the USSR and the United States must be more stable in the positive sense. This would meet the interests of both sides.

The struggle of these two lines in U.S. politics concentrates now primarily on the question of concluding an agreement on limiting strategic offensive armaments between the two powers. The progress made so far at the negotiations warrants the belief that this important matter can be successfully brought to an end shortly, if the other side does not erect obstacles to an overall agreement, if the principle of equality and equal security is observed consistently.

Furthermore, the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government have drawn attention more than once to the fact that such actions by the United States as the continuing expansion of the military budget, launching of new weapons programs, playing--to put it mildly--the "Chinese card," which has become so dear to those in Washington who think little of the future, in no way meet the purposes of the agreement, nor the goals of peace in general.

If this is being done in order to pressure the Soviet Union, such attempts are futile and can only yield the opposite effect. If the United States wishes in this way to pacify those who oppose improving our relations, experience shows that this only whets additionally Beijing's appetite to seize foreign lands. Consequently, it is better to renounce such dangerous experiments.

For its part, the Soviet Union stands for smoothing out its relations with the United States, for making them stable and constructive, for developing them in all directions on the principles foundation of equality and mutual respect.

Our country, the speaker continued, values its relations with the West European countries. The cooperation between the Soviet Union and France, which has already become traditional, is developing in a favorable direction. The recent visit to the USSR of the French foreign minister reaffirmed French cooperation.

Our relations with the Federal Republic of Germany are also progressing on the whole in a positive direction. Leonid Brezhnev's negotiations with the FRG leaders last year gave a new impetus to their development.

Our mutually advantageous relations with Italy are developing successfully, and both sides value this.

On the whole we are satisfield with the development of our relations with Austria, the Scandinavian and many other European states, let alone our fine good-neighborly relations with Finland. It is pertinent to note the development of relations with Spain, resumed after a 40-year interval. This undoubtedly meets the interests of the peoples of our two countries.

The possibilities of further improving the Soviet Union's relations with the Western states are far from exhausted. If we succeed in making fuller use of these opportunities, and this depends, of course, not only on us--we are doing everything depending on us--the cause of consolidating peace and security will only stand to gain from it. And this is what is needed by all the peoples, all the countries.

Of course, the Soviet Union and all the fraternal socialist countries are far from underestimating the influence of the forces hostile to peace and detente.

Cock-and-bull stories about the "Soviet war menace" are being spread again and again in the same way as 10, 20, or even 50 years ago. They are using this myth in an attempt to justify the arms race, the increase in military budgets, and the refusal to resolve other urgent international problems. We would not be at all surprised if they started to explain, say, colds from which Americans are suffering by using this myth. All this, of course, is a lie, but shaped on the basis of this very lie is what they call the "big policy," including questions discussed in Vienna--you have obviously heard about this forum--which are related to the possibility of reducing armaments and armed forces in Europe.

Comrades, you know all too well that nobody is displaying more persistance in the efforts to stop the arms race and secure disarmament than the Soviet Union. We have submitted all kinds of proposals at various international forums for consideration by other states. We have submitted proposals on the banning and the liquidation of nuclear and other types of mass annihilation weapons, as well as on the need to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes, only for the good of man. We have submitted proposals on reducing conventional armaments, or what goes under the name of conventional armaments. [sentence indistinct] Everything was rejected. The imperialist world, and in the first place the big imperialist powers and the NATO military bloc, rejected everything. They did not accept a single proposal, they do not want to accept a single proposal. But we shall not relax our defense efforts in the face of the growing military potential of the NATO countries, no matter what demagogic arguments are used to camouflage calls for this.

This would have irreparable consequences for the cause of socialism, for our security. Our borders have and must have dependable and strong locks.

The Beijing leaders are assuming an increasingly aggressive role in world affairs. This is borne out not only by the aggression against Socialist Vietnam, which has already been mentioned. They come out against the easing of tension, against disarmament, against the peaceful coexistence of states. They are pursuing a militaristic policy and do not conceal it. For the sake of achieving their hegemonistic goals, the Chinese leaders are prepared to align themselves with anybody from the camp of the enemies of socialism and peace. Not long ago the Chinese leaders contended that at any moment the Soviet Union would attack China, that war was inevitable, that is, a war of the Soviet Union against China. However, now they have made a turn. By how many degrees do you think? By 180 degrees. Now they are trying to prove that war is possible not against China but against Western Europe. They are doing a great deal in order to deceive the European countries and European peoples, and in order to intimidate them with the threat of war on the part of the Soviet Union. Our line vis-a-vis China had been most clearly outlined more than once from the forums of CPSU congresses and in decisions of party Central Committee plenums. It is known to everybody.

There is still no peace in the Middle East. What is occurring on the basis of the Camp David collusion and around it leads to a further aggravation of the situation. The Soviet Union sides and will side with the just struggle of the Arab peoples.

Our country does not change friends. This is not our custom. The problem of noninterference in the internal affairs of other states and peoples does not lose its topicality in the contemporary world. On the contrary, it is becoming every more topical. World public opinion has been attracted in recent months to the events in Iran, which are linked, not in the last turn, precisely with this problem.

Our country has not interfered and is not interfering in the Iranian affairs. Nobody should meddle with these affairs under any pretext. Everybody remembers Leonid Brezhnev's firm but just words on this score, contained in his statement published not long ago by PRAVDA.

Loyal to the Leninist policy of peace and international friendship, the Soviet Union recognized the Provisional Government of Iran and declared its readiness to maintain and develop relations with this neighboring country on the basis of equality, respect of national sovereignty and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

All this has been duly assessed by the Iranian people, whom the Soviet people wish only well.

No matter how contradictory the international situation may become, our party, which relies on the Marxist-Leninist understanding of the objective laws of social development, is successfully solving foreign policy problems, and we have reason to look confidently into the future. It is not under our feet that the ground is ablaze. It is ablaze, from the historical viewpoint, under the feet of the other world.

PARTY, STATE RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE CONSTRUCTION CADRES

LD281651 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a resolution "On Measures to Further Improve Training of Skilled Cadres and Establish Them in Construction."

The resolution points out that considerable work has been done in recent years to raise the technical standard of construction, strengthen its material and technical base, create a network of large construction and installation organizations, and train skilled construction workers. A number of measures have been taken to improve labor organization and workers' housing and consumer conditions.

At the same time the solution of the tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress in capital construction, the growing volumes of capital investments and the diversity and technical complexity of projects under construction demand the improved training of skilled cadres and their establishment in construction.

In the resolution the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers instructed the USSR ministries and departments carrying out construction, union republic Councils of Ministers and party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations to regard as their most important tasks the provision of construction with permanent highly-skilled cadres, the improvement of their vocational training system, the introduction of progressive labor methods, team contracting and progressive forms of remuneration helping to raise labor productivity and workers' wages, the improvement of the quality of construction work and the fulfillment of capital construction plans.

In 1979-1980 the USSR State Committee for Vocational Technical Education is instructed, jointly with the union republic Councils of Ministers, to insure that more than 600,000 skilled workers are trained in construction and installation trades; to assign students to vocational and technical educational institutions (by trades) in conjunction with basic construction and installation organizations in accordance with their requirements; to direct graduates of vocational and technical educational institutions to construction sites of the ministries and departments on the production base of whose organizations the said educational institutions operate.

USSR construction ministries and the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification are to set the target for 1979-1980 of constructing and commissioning vocational and technical educational institutions incorporating workshops, test sites, public and consumer-service buildings and hostels.

USSR ministries and departments carrying out construction, union republic Councils of Ministers and construction and installation organizations are instructed to insure that paid work is provided to give students of vocational and technical educational institutions production practice in accordance with the requirements of training programs; to create for students of vocational and technical educational institutions the necessary production, housing and consumer conditions and safe working conditions; to assist in selecting the necessary cadres of foremen, instructors and teachers and in allocating them to vocational and technical educational institutions.

It is laid down that students being trained in construction and installation trades, vocational and technical schools, and technical schools of the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education are to [be] paid 50 percent of the sums they earn during production practice.

Ministries and departments and leaders of construction and installation organizations are ordered to create proper production and consumer conditions for graduates of vocational and technical educational institutions and to take measures to raise their qualifications, for example by assigning them to the best teams that have assimilated progressive labor methods and allocating experienced mentors to them; when forming teams of young workers, to appoint team leaders from among the most skilled and experienced workers to lead them.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers ordered USSR construction ministries, the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry and the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources to insure the production training of skilled workers in construction and installation trades, to construct and enlarge educational complexes (technical schools, training centers) and to provide them with the necessary stock-in-trade, modern equipment and technical training facilities. These ministries are instructed to organize permanent courses to train and raise the qualifications of production team leaders and to enlist more widely the best team leaders, labor veterans and honored construction workers, as well as highly skilled specialists from among pensioners; to instruct workers ineducational combines (technical schools, training centers).

It is permitted to award bonuses to the personnel of educational complexes (technical schools, training centers) performing centralized training of cadres to successfully fulfill plans to train workers and raise their qualifications: This may be done using a centralized material incentive fund.

Leaders of construction and installation organizations are granted the right to pay those servicemen who, after discharge into the reserve from the ranks of the Soviet Army, conclude a contract to work for 3 years in construction and installation organizations a lump-sum grant of up to R500 out of the material incentive fund to cover resettlement expenses [na khozyaystvennoye obzavedeniye]. From July 1980 it is permitted to pay a free lump-sum grant to workers sent to construction sites for a period of 2 years as part of an organized recruitment.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers permitted USSR construction ministries, the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry and the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, as well as the main construction administrations under the Moscow Gorispolkom, Leningrad Gorispolkom and Moskovskiy Oblispolkom, to direct to the construction of apartment buildings, municipal services, cultural and public health projects, sports facilities, schools and children's preschool establishments capital investments up to 5 percent of the total volume of construction and installation work assigned to them for the construction of production projects, without reducing their targets for commissioning production capacities and fixed capital.

With a view to creating the necessary production, housing and consumer conditions for workers sent to construct projects situated in uninhabited localities and to projects which take a longer time to complete, the resolution lays down targets for 1979-1980 for organizing plant production of standard inventory buildings and premises (mobile, containerized and wholly portable) and improving their quality.

It is permitted to acquire standard mobile railcar homes and other inventory buildings and premises, as well as to construct Red Corners for construction and installation organization workers with the funds for temporary buildings and structures provided for in project construction estimates.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers ordered the USSR Ministry of Trade, Tsentrosoyuz, other USSR ministries and departments and union republic Councils of Ministers to insure the elaboration in 1979 and the implementation of measures to improve the organization of public catering on construction sites, notably by increasing the output of canteens and refreshment counters, raising the standard of preparation of dishes and creating distribution centers, as well as to organize traveling trade in industrial commodities.

With a view to improving medical assistance to construction workers USSR ministries and departments carrying out construction and union republic Councils of Ministers are instructed, jointly with the USSR Ministry of Health, to insure in 1979-1985 the construction of medical and sanitation units in large construction and installation organizations, as well as the further development of the network of shop medical sections and centers staffed by medical attendants [vrachebnyye uchastki i feldsherskiye punkty].

The USSR Ministry of Health is instructed to step up state sanitary supervision of the observance of labor safety regulations and norms in construction.

The USSR Ministry of Light Industry is entrusted with developing in accordance with the USSR construction ministries' technical requirements models of special clothing (men's and women's) for construction workers, including those working in hot climates and low temperatures, as well as for welders, and with organizing in 1979-1981 the industrial production of this clothing and special footwear for construction workers working under hot climatic conditions, footwear with frost-resistent soles and electrically heated footwear.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers ordered USSR ministries and departments implementing construction, union republic Councils of Ministers and leaders of construction and installation organizations to elaborate and implement measures insuring:

The fulfillment of capital construction plans and labor productivity growth targets, the reduction of worker cadre turnover and the improvement of construction production organization;

The strengthening of labor and production discipline, the elimination of working time losses, the reduction of manual labor and increased mechanization of construction and installation work through better utilization of construction equipment;

The widespread use of payment by the job as the basic form of work payment in construction, of team contracts, and of the experience of the best construction sites, leading collectives and production innovators;

The raising of the responsibility of chief engineers, work superintendents, skilled workers and other engineering and technical workers in construction and installation organizations for the preparation and organization of construction production, the fulfillment of labor productivity growth targets and the elimination of deficiencies in norm-setting and work payments;

The creation of conditions for highly productive work by teams, their timely equipping with the necessary materials and complete sets of small-scale mechanization facilities, instruments, stocks of implements and devices for fulfilling construction and installation work.

The USSR State Committee for Cinematography and the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting are instructed to increase the output of films and the number of radio and television broadcasts on the work of construction sites, leading collectives and production innovators, on experience in introducing team contracting and scientific labor organization and on the training of skilled construction workers cadres.

The USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade must expand the publication of literature on construction projects and insure the output in 1979-1980 of mass editions of brochures and posters on the life, heroism and everyday affairs of construction workers.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers expressed confidence that the USSR ministries and departments, the union republic Councils of Ministers, party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations, leaders and workers of construction and installation organizations will take all measures to provide construction projects with highly qualified cadres and to create the necessary conditions for establishing them in construction and will direct all their efforts to insuring the unconditional fulfillment of capital construction tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums.

KIRGIZ, KAZAKH, ARMENIAN PERSONNEL CHANGES REPORTED

LD261655 [Editorial Report LD] Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian on 8 February frontpages a Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree date 7 February appointing Vladimir Dmitriyevich Nagibin Kazakh SSR minister of nonferrous metallurgy.

Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 10 February 1979 frontpages a Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Presidium decree dated 9 February appointing Oyrot Turgunbayev Kirgiz minister of health and publishes on page 4 a report that the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Vladimir Arustamovich Petrosyants from his duties as Kirgiz health minister "in connection with a transfer to other work."

Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 15 February 1979 frontpages an Armenian Supreme Soviet Presidium decree appointing "Comrade Suren Stepanovich Oganesyan chairman of the Armenian State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture." It carries on page 2 a report that Gamlet Gareginovich Navasardyan has been released from that post "in connection with his transfer to other work."

WEEKLY REFUTES CLAIMED SUPPRESSION OF RELIGION IN USSR

LD151318 Moscow TASS in English 1253 GMT 15 Feb 79 LD

["Church and State in USSR"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--One of the favourite themes of anti-Soviet propaganda is the "persecution" of religion and the church in the USSR, the NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] weekly writes. The ABC publishers in the FRG issued a whole series of books on the condition of the church in socialist countries.

The arguments of the authors of such publications usually boil down to allegations that "religious activity in the USSR is under state control and that the church is therefore oppressed."

"Such assertions, to put it mildly, are insolvent. In the Soviet Union, the church is separated from the state" the weekly points out. There is no state control over religious activity, we have legislation on religious cults, which, however, in no way restricts freedom of conscience.

"Citizens of the USSR are guaranteed by the Constitution freedom of conscience," the NEW TIMES goes on to say. "They have the right to profess or not to profess any religion. Over 20,000 local communes of various religious trends are registered in the country and temples of worship are opened. In Moscow, for instance, 47 Orthodox cathedrals and churches, mosques, Catholic church, three Old-Believers churches, two synagogues and a Baptist prayer-house function. The religious cults have their educational establishments to graduate clergymen. The communes freely maintain contacts with foreign fellow-believers. All religions in the USSR have equal rights."

MARYYSKIY OBKOM FIRST SECRETARY NIKONOV HONORED

LD272144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] By decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrade Nikonov, first secretary of the Maryyskiy Obkom, has been awarded the Order of the October Revolution for services to the Communist Party and the Soviet state and in connection with his 50th birthday.

COSMONAUTS CONTINUE TO REACTIVATE SALYUT SYSTEMS

LD281220 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Flight Control Centre, February 28, TASS--Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin continue reactivating the Salyut-6 station.

A permanent work regimen has been established for the crew of the orbital scientific-research Salyut-6-Soyuz-32 complex as of January 28. The working day in the orbit will continue from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., Moscow time.

Immediately upon waking up the cosmonauts measured the body mass with the help of a special balance--a massmeter. This examination has been done to study changes in the cosmonauts' weight in the process of the flight.

The crew then continued operations in reactivating the systems and equipment aboard the station, specifically thermal regulation, water regeneration, ventilation and other systems. Biological experiments have begun aboard the station. The experiments have the aim to study the influence of weightlessness on the development of some plants and tissue culture. Biological objects were taken into orbit by the Soyuz-32 spaceship.

According to the data of the telemetric information and reports of the crew, the condition of the systems of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-32 station is normal. Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin feel well.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM ON MAGNETOSPHERE RESEARCH DESCRIBED

LD281710 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--TASS commentator writes: It has been for four months that two scientific apparatuses have been orbiting the earth launched by one rocket--the satellite Intercosmos-18 and the Czechoslovak satellite Magion. On Tuesday, a new scientific laboratory of the socialist countries was launched from a Soviet cosmodrome--the satellite Intercosmos-19. The laboratory is provided with scientific equipment to study the earth's ionosphere, its interaction with solar irradiation and the spread of radiowaves in plasma.

A vast volume of information has already been obtained from Intercosmos-18 and Magion, which is now being processed in the scientific centers of the socialist countries as well as by specialists from France, Sweden, Austria, taking part in the experiments within the framework of the project--international research into magnetosphere. The launching of the two latest Intercosmoses with an interval of four months are designed to obtain a "cross section" of near-earth space in autumn and spring.

One specific feature of the new space experiment is that, apart from the satellite, high-altitude aerostats are taking part in the studies of the near-earth space which are scheduled to take off from the Swedish scientific launching ground in Kirin and drift from the west to the east. In addition, observations will be conducted by the ionosphere stations situated in the northern regions of the countries participating in the "international research into the magnetosphere" programme.

SOKOLOV VIEWS WORLD SITUATION IN ARMY DAY SPEECH

LD281209 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Feb 79 pp 1, 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Always on Guard: A Moscow Ceremony"]

[Text] Guests were welcomed in a particularly festive manner in the House of Unions on 22 February. Armed forces' veterans, representatives of Moscow's working people and Moscow Garrison soldiers came to celebrate the 61st anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy.

The columned hall of the House of Unions, 1700 hours. The Presidium comprised: Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR defense minister; L.V. Smirnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; N.I. Savinkin, chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; USSR Ministers V.A. Kazakov, B.P. Bugayev, V.V. Bakhirev, P.V. Finogenov and E.K. Pervyshin; Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; USSR deputy defense ministers: Army Gen V.F. Tolubko, Army Gen I.G. Pavlovskiy, Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, Marshal of the Soviet Union K.S. Moskalenko, Army Gen S.K. Kurkotkin, Army Gen A.T. Altunin and Engr-Col Gen N.N. Alekseyev; Engr-Col Gen V.M. Shabanov; Engr-Col Gen N.F. Shestopalov; Army Gen I.N. Shkadov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Main Personnel Directorate; Marshal of the Soviet Union I.Kh. Bagramyan; Marshal of the Soviet Union P.F. Batitskiy; Army Gen P.I. Batov, chairman of the Soviet War Veterans Committee; Marshal of Aviation A.I. Pokryshkin, chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee; B.N. Pastukhov, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee; marshals of troop categories, generals, admirals, officers, representatives of party, soviet and public organizations, and Soviet pilot-cosmonauts.

The Presidium also included Army Gen Raul Castro Ruz, Politburo member and second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, first vice president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers and minister of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, leader of a Cuban military delegation currently in Moscow.

The ceremony was opened by V.N. Makeyev, secretary of Moscow Gorkom.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, the great Lenin's brilliant successor, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, was elected honorary Presidium of the ceremony to the tumultuous applause of those present.

The Soviet soldiers were welcomed and congratulated on the holiday by Hero of Socialist Labor N.G. Myachin, fitter at Moscow's I.A. Likhachev automobile plant, and D.A. Okhromiy, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, on behalf of the capital's working people and Komsomol members and young people respectively.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister, warmly and cordially congratulated the assembly and all armed forces personnel on the holiday.

The Soviet people, he said, are celebrating the Soviet Armed Forces' 61st anniversary in an atmosphere of nationwide struggle to implement the 25th party congress and CPSU Central Committee July and November (1978) plenum decisions and of preparations for the USSR Supreme Soviet elections. The Soviet people were tremendously inspired by the CPSU Central Committee's address to all USSR voters and citizens.

The land of the soviets' working people and its army and navy are closely rallied around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, that distinguished modern politician and statesman. They are determined to implement the CPSU's policies and plans, achieve further successes in communist building and further increase the motherland's economic and defense might.

As they implement communist building, the Soviet people are vitally interested in preserving peace. Thanks to the active and purposeful work of the CPSU Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally, great successes have been achieved in solving foreign policy tasks.

At the same time, the speaker pointed out, the contemporary world situation is characterized by complex and contradictory developments. Reactionary imperialist forces are again trying to poison the international atmosphere and revive an atmosphere of distrust and brinkmanship in interstate relations. They are whipping up the arms race, developing new types of deadly weapons, supporting hotbeds of tension and provoking military conflicts.

A characteristic feature of the present international situation is the Beijing militarist leaders' open siding with imperialism's aggressive forces. The Soviet people learned of the Chinese Armed Forces' treacherous attack on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam with a sense of anger and indignation. As the Soviet Government statement says, "the Chinese troops' invasion of Vietnam, which only recently repulsed foreign aggression, cannot be a matter of indifference to a single honest man in the world, or to a single sovereign state." With the Soviet people, the army and navy thoroughly condemned Beijing's aggression and declared: "Hands of Socialist Vietnam!"

Under these conditions the Communist Party and the Soviet state are giving unremitting attention to strengthening the country's defense might and its armed forces.

Soviet soldiers, Marshal of the Soviet Union S. L. Sokolov said in conclusion, are carrying out their sacred duty worthily and honorably and are serving their people, their party and the great cause of communism loyally and devotedly. Ardent patriots and staunch internationalists, they are carrying aloft battle standards covered with the unfading glory of victories, augmenting older generations' heroic traditions and, in united combat formation with the soldiers of the Warsaw Pact member states' armies, vigilantly guarding socialism's great gains.

A greetings letter to the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, was unanimously adopted to tumultuous and prolonged applause.

After the ceremony a big holiday concert was held.